



Welsh patients fear 'second-class' health service

PATIENTS in Mid Wales are worried about receiving "second-class" healthcare provision ahead of a shake-up of services across the border in Shropshire.

Welshpool deputy mayor Steve Kaye said results of the town council's health survey found people are "overwhelmingly" in favour of retaining A&E services in Shrewsbury.

Councillor Kaye said he is con-

cerned that should the service be moved to Telford, patients from Mid Wales would be receiving a poorer service. He said: "I was pleased to be able to present and discuss the results of Welshpool Town Council's health survey at the National Eisteddfod to Welsh Assembly health minister Mark Drakeford."

"The survey, carried out in Welshpool, overwhelmingly supports the

retention of A&E services in Shrewsbury. Residents in Welshpool are still worried about Montgomeryshire receiving a second-class service in terms of healthcare provision compared with their English counterparts and it was encouraging to receive assurances directly from the minister that residents in Wales will be treated on a level playing field."

Under the Future Fit banner, a decision on the location of Shropshire's new sole accident and emergency centre will be made on October 1.

Russell George, Montgomeryshire AM, added: "When I speak to people on the doorstep, health is the number one priority. With the NHS in Shropshire facing reform, there is concern that the potential restructuring of health services will have a detrimental impact on the people of Mid Wales."

"I made it clear it is essential for the Welsh government to make their view known on the future of emergency and urgent care in Shropshire and that it would be unacceptable for people in the east of Montgomeryshire to be pressurised into travelling to Bronllys Hospital in Aberystwyth to access healthcare services."

See Page 6 for the views of Glyn Davies MP on the health shake-up

COURT

Tax consultant, 76, accused of stealing £1.3m from clients

A 76-YEAR-OLD tax consultant has appeared in court charged with defrauding his clients out of more than £1.3million.

David Vaughan Jones, from Leighton, Welshpool, appeared at Welshpool Magistrates Court on Tuesday charged with 31 fraud-related offences.

Jones spoke only to confirm his name and declare that he was not going to enter a plea. The charges claim he took money from 14 different people, some of which related to the distribution of estates following a death, and £100,000 of which should have been given to charities as well as to the deceased's next of kin.

Many of the charges are of obtaining money by deception, where it is claimed Jones said he would invest large amounts of money in high-interest offshore accounts but instead took the money for himself.

In total, he is accused of stealing £1,337,158.23 from his clients.

Jones also faces charges of forgery and of intimidating a witness.

Mrs Helen Tench, prosecuting, said because of the amount of money involved it was a case which would be better dealt with at the crown court. Magistrates committed the case to Mold Crown Court for a plea and case management hearing on August 21.

Jones was granted bail with the condition not to contact any potential prosecution witnesses.

MARKET

Antiques sellers coming to town

OSWESTRY Town Council has teamed up with antiques specialist Amulet Fairs for a market with a difference next week.

The antiques market on August 21 is expected to bring dozens of traders to Bailey Head. It follows the inaugural town centre antiques market last May as part of the Love Your Local Market campaign.

Oswestry's mayor, Councillor Peter Cherrington, said the council was keen to help organise special events. He said: "This might be our regular and specialist markets or it might be the music in the park. It all brings people into the town and helps the local economy."

INSIDE

Crowds flock to Eisteddfod



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MP: NEW URGENT CARE SITES VITAL

Report by Sue Austin

URGENT care centres in Oswestry and Whitchurch are the key to unlocking the best health care for people in north Shropshire, its MP has said.

But Owen Paterson says the centres must have overnight beds for those who need them.

The MP says doctors and health specialists in the Oswestry area are fully behind the Future Fit plans for just one emergency care centre for Shropshire backed up by urgent care centres across the county.

The NHS Future Fit consultation is expected to announce on October 1 where the emergency care centre – replacing one of the A&E departments at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital and the Princess Royal Hospital in Telford – will be.

There has been countywide controversy over where the emergency care centre will be.

But Mr Paterson said: "With the creation of the urgent care centres it will not matter where the emergency centre is as it will only be the most seriously ill patients who will go there by ambulance."

"All other patients will be seen in the urgent care centres."

"I have been consistently in favour of the one emergency centre with urgent care centres across the county – it was the main plank in my election address. We have lost vital health care in Shropshire. If you have a heart attack or stroke you are taken out of the county – for example, to Stoke for treatment."

"With just one emergency centre we will have the money and the facilities to attract specialist consultants and bring that specialist care back to Shropshire."

"I am fed up with the fighting over where the emergency care centre should be."

The MP said that members of the monthly Health For Oswestry meeting, which he chairs, also backed the Future Fit model.

"Those meetings have representatives from GP surgeries, the CCG, the Orthopaedic Hospital and the town and parish councils. They have endorsed the model."

Stunts and sheep-shearing to delight show-goers



Preparing to greet the thousands of show visitors are, from left, James Williams, John Jones and Tracy Jones

A WORLD record-breaking stunt motorcycle team and the all-Wales sheep-shearing final will be among the crowd pleasers at the popular Llanfyllin Show on Saturday.

About 4,000 people attend the show at Bodfach Hall on the edge of the town each year.

Tomorrow evening (Friday) will see the start of the local sheepdog trials before the show opens at 9am, providing entertainment until 6pm on Saturday.

James Dylan's Stuntworld will bring two shows to the main ring, led by James him-

self, the holder of five world records. Another highlight is the All-Wales Circuit Shearing Final, which brings together the 20 best sheep shearers in Wales in four different classes.

A fashion show and a demonstration by a Llanfyllin skateboarding group are also on the programme and there will be a funfair, a Punch and Judy show, trade stands and classes for horses, sheep, goats, dogs, horticulture, floral art, cookery and needlework.

Show chairman John Jones spoke of his admiration for the way the community comes

together for the popular annual event which is held after months of preparation work.

"A huge number of people help with setting up the show and clearing the showground afterwards," said John. "It's a terrific community effort and I don't think there's another show like it."

For John, supporting the show is a family affair as his daughter, Tracy, is the horse section secretary and his grandson, James Williams, is a regular in the sheep section, showing his prize-winning blue face Leicesters.

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PICTURE PREVIEW



A historian is organising an event to remember the ferocious Battle of Crogen. See Page 8 for more.

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Enterprise zone bid could boost new business park

Report by Sue Austin

MAJOR companies could be attracted to a Shropshire business park if it wins a bid to become a national Enterprise Zone.

Shropshire Council is applying for Enterprise Zone status for the planned Oswestry Business Park, just off the town's bypass.

Construction of the first phase of the business park development, which could create up to 3,000 new jobs, is scheduled to start over the next year with roads built and infrastructure put in.

Developers working with Shropshire Council are drawing up outline plans for the site, which is currently agricultural land, having been assured that they will not need to carry out an environmental impact assessment.

Councillor Keith Barrow, leader of the council, said the land, just off the busy Mile End roundabout, was ideally placed on the national road network.

He revealed that the council is spending £100,000 on preparatory work for the 30-hectare site and added there has already been interest from several companies.

Councillor Barrow said an Enterprise Zone bid was about to go off to the government, which announced an extension of the national scheme in the Budget.

"To be successful in the bid would kick start the whole venture, giving rate relief and other incentives to companies who decide to move on to the business park," he said. "We already have the new £4 million roundabout and road improvements at Mile End which include a spur into the business park."

"It is ideally placed, just 50 miles away from three airports, on the main north-south Wales road and on a Trans-European Highway linking Europe to Ireland."

"The site is big enough to put businesses on to create up to 3,000 new jobs. The thing is to try and attract the right businesses. This is potentially huge for Oswestry and for Shropshire."

Councillor Barrow said the Oswestry area had always had to compete with Welsh government funding and incentives, which drew companies away from Shropshire and into Wales. "Cadbury's located its factory in Chirk because of the Welsh grants, it has been incredibly frustrating," said Councillor Barrow. "An enterprise zone would help us in Shropshire to compete."

Fitness fan offers free classes to disabled



Alastair 'AJ' Pingram says exercise changed his life and now wants other disabled people to benefit from his experience

A FORMER Royal Navy engineer who took part in the Invictus games is now helping other disabled people to get fit.

Alastair 'AJ' Pingram wants to use his experience of fitness and injury treatment to help others reap the benefits of exercise.

Mr Pingram, 39, who is doing a work placement at The Venue gym in Oswestry, is appealing to those with disabilities or health problems to contact him for free fitness sessions.

The work placement is part of the InstructAbility project created by the spinal injury charity Aspire, which has joined forces with Help for Heroes and YMCAfit, to support wounded, injured and sick serv-

ing personnel and veterans in gaining a specialist diploma in personal training.

Graduates will be qualified to work with a range of individuals including disabled people and those with health conditions such as diabetes and obesity.

Mr Pingram joined the Navy at the age of 19. He was keen hockey player who captained the forces team, and had planned to become a physical training instructor.

However, he suffered injuries to both ankles and underwent eight operations, leaving him with no cartilage in either ankles and nerve damage in both legs. He would now like radical amputation surgery.

"I have to use a wheelchair much of the

time and am in constant pain. If I could have amputations and prosthetics then I could start doing the things I want to do again."

My Pingram took part in the Invictus Games – a multi-sports event for injured and sick services personnel – as a wheelchair basketball player.

He said that exercise gave him his life back after being discharged from a career that he loved. "My ambition now is to use my experience to support other people to make the most of what they have," he said.

Any disabled person who would like a free induction with AJ can book through The Venue on 01691 684840.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Canal section to reopen for boats

THE Montgomery Canal will soon be reopened to through traffic after weeks of closure to prevent its collapse.

A section of 200-year old canal at Queens Head near Oswestry was closed to boats in early June because of leaks and the unstable canal wall.

The problems arose where the restored waterway is next to the Aston Nature Reserve, created to house the wildlife that lived in the canal before it was made navigable again.

John Craven from the BBC's Countryfile programme officially opened the section and the reserve 12 years ago and since then both have flourished.

The area was declared a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Engineers have had to put in special piling to strengthen the canal bank.

The River and Waterways Trust, says that the canal, which has been open to walkers throughout the work, is due to reopen in just a few days' time.

Businesspeople at lunch event

ABOUT 30 delegates attended a Shropshire Chamber of Commerce business lunch held hosted by one of its newest members.

The event was held at the Townhouse restaurant in Willow Street, Oswestry.

Amy Cross, who is general manager at the restaurant, said: "We were delighted to welcome chamber members to view the many facilities we have on offer."

Chamber member Graeme Brookes, of Oswestry-based business ABC Consulting, said: "It has been an ideal opportunity to mix with fellow business people from the Oswestry area that we quite often never get to meet."

"I'm grateful to the chamber for organising such an interesting event in our market town."

Bid to improve carnival

PREPARATIONS are already under way for next year's Welshpool Carnival in a bid to improve the procession.

Welshpool Town Council said it hopes the procession at next May's event will be "much better" so is recruiting for people to help out.

Mr Robinson said people can book a stall for the carnival by calling 01938 553142 or by e-mailing town.clerk@welshpooltowncouncil.gov.uk

Fishing spot in plans for camping site

A POPULAR fishing spot in Oswestry is hoping to expand its business by adding camping and caravanning pitches to its site.

Weston Pools, on the south eastern edge of the town, has applied for planning permission for the new pitches, which its owner Michael Philbin says will encourage more people to make a weekend of their visit rather than just coming for a few hours.

Currently the site offers accommodation in wooden lodges, but Mr Philbin said he had had far more requests for camping pitches than lodge accommodation. "The fishing village is used for social and competition anglers, with visitors using the lodges for short stays," he said.

"Although we had been granted planning permission for more holiday lodges, we decided that there is a greater demand for caravans and tents for seasoned anglers, their families and general tourists to the town."

Mr Philbin said the fishing village, which has been running for six years, has now become part of the community and regularly welcomes anglers for events.

And he said the proposed camping facilities could lead to him being able to take on more staff.

If the plans are approved, the camp site would accommodate 10 touring caravans with separate areas for camping pods and tents.

Food store staff to help charities

STAFF at Welshpool's Tesco store are hosting a fundraising weekend in aid of Diabetes UK and the British Heart Foundation.

A series of events will be held at the store on August 22 including a children's talent competition, face painting, a raffle and cake stall.

Registration for the talent competition for under-10s and 11-16 year olds opens on August 15 at the store customer services desk.

"We are building good links with the local community and are really happy to be helping the Diabetes UK and the British Heart Foundation," said store manager Linda Ruscoe.

The events are being held by store colleagues and community champion Bryony Wesson, who is seeking members of the community who would like Tesco to help.

She can be contacted on 07822 828952.

Family of knife death man back campaign

Report by Pam Kingsley

THE family of a man killed in a fight in Shropshire have backed a campaign against knife crime.

Danny Jones, 21, was killed in 2013 in Oswestry by Richard Reece, who was jailed for manslaughter later that year.

Reece, of Lord Street, Oswestry, stabbed the ornamental sword into Mr Jones's stomach after a scuffle. He was detained for 12 years at Birmingham Crown Court after he was convicted of manslaughter.

Mr Jones' mother, Lisa McNeil, was invited to add a knife to a sculpture being created at the British Ironwork Centre near Oswestry.

She joined the chief constable of North Wales Police, the region's deputy police and crime commissioner and Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies to weld a knife on to a massive statue symbolising the campaign against knife crime.

She said: "I think the sculpture is going well. It's going to make an impact. The amount of knives that's been taken off the streets and handed in to make the sculpture is shocking, and the type of the knives as well."

The sculpture is being created by Alfie Bradbury and is expected to use 100,000 knives of all shapes and sizes by the time it's completed.

Mr Bradbury said: "We've had all sorts of knives handed in - kitchen knives, meat cleaners, samurai swords and axes."

"I'm cleaning all the knives and doing it all myself because of security, so it's not a quick job, but hopefully it should be only about another month and a half to complete now. The wings are going to come down the sides and I'll take the handles off then use the blades like feathers, with the biggest blades at the top."

North Wales chief constable Mark Polin said: "I've been asked several times about how symbolic this is but it's not about symbolism. We want to do our very best to ensure that people understand that carrying knives comes with a number of risks."

"All we can do to communicate that message and the work being done here helps with that. It's been important to see the McNeil family here today. What happened to them is tragic, but we want to prevent this happening again."



Mark Polin says the eye-catching sculpture is helping the force communicate a tough message about knives

MP supports roads shake-up

AN MP has backed calls for part of a town's controversial one-way system to be returned to two-way traffic.

Glyn Davies, Montgomeryshire's MP has been a long-time critic of the Welshpool traffic management system, describing it as a "bonkers" answer to the management of traffic moving east-west through the town.

He is now backing demands from Welshpool Town Council for action.

Mr Davies said this week he was fully in support of the council's recent decision to seek fundamental change by having two roads taking traffic travelling westwards.

But he also wants to go a step further and pedestrianise the town's Church Street.

Mr Davies, who has lived near Welshpool all his life, said: "I do not think Welshpool's one-way-system

is fit for purpose. It only works well when there is light traffic."

"The Welshpool Town Council proposal is a major step forward towards creation of a workable traffic system for the town, serving both local and through traffic. The next step will be to persuade the Welsh Government to appoint traffic management consultants to take forward the Town Council's proposals."

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MP orders rail bosses to open £1.4m footbridge

Report by Pam Kingsley

AN MP has called on rail chiefs to open a £1.4 million footbridge that was completed seven months ago.

Contractors for Network Rail carried out the work at Chirk Station, near Oswestry, in December last year, building the new ramped footbridge to give wheelchair access to platform one for northbound trains for the first time.

But the bridge, which forms part of a wider £2 million project to improve the station, remains closed due to difficulties with CCTV cameras.

Now Susan Elan Jones, MP for Clwyd South, has written to Network Rail chief executive Mark Carne calling for the new footbridge to be opened.

Council hits back after college claim

SHROPSHIRE Council has said it is dedicated to helping young people with learning difficulties following criticism from a specialist college in the county.

Derwen College near Oswestry was forced to make redundancies recently as fewer students took up residential places there. The college for young people aged between 16-25 with learning difficulties and disabilities has been rated 'Outstanding' in its last two Ofsted inspection.

After a documentary about the college was shown on BBC3 its deputy principal, Andrew Harris, revealed that students and parents often had to battle with the local authority to take up a place at the college.

Councillor Ann Hartley, Shropshire Council's cabinet member for children's services, said the authority supported young people with learning difficulties and disabilities in a number of ways.

"If a young person requires specialist provision, the council will work with the young person and their family through the special education/high needs process, to determine the most appropriate provision that can meet their needs," she said. "As a consequence, young people residing in Shropshire have accessed, and continue to access, the programmes offered at Derwen College, which Shropshire Council recognise as a good and highly valued provider."

However, Councillor Hartley said that residential placements may not always be appropriate, particularly when young people could access the college on a daily basis.

"Local residents and I are fed-up with the delay. It's totally unacceptable," she said.

"Local rail-users were delighted when the Friends of Chirk Station and representatives of Network Rail and Alun Griffiths Contractors worked together to secure this major improvement."

"However, the newly installed footbridge still hasn't been opened. It isn't fair on local residents, especially those who carry heavy cases or need it for reasons of mobility."

Urgently

"There's a suggestion that the bridge hasn't been opened because of the need for extra lights. But whatever the reason, Network Rail need to clarify what is going on and how long the work will take, and then they need to get the footbridge opened. This matter needs to be sorted urgently."

In her letter, the MP called for an immediate review of the reason for the delay, adding: "Clearly such a high-profile project which has resulted from considerable investment and co-operation deserves to be completed at the earliest opportunity."

Chirk was one of five stations in Wales which was granted money to provide better access last year.

Hannah McCarthy, Network Rail spokeswoman, said: "Passengers will benefit from a better travelling experience when work is completed to increase accessibility at Chirk station."

"Improving access at stations makes a real difference to passengers by making it easier for people to get to work, or travel to see friends and family. We are having technical issues with the CCTV on the new footbridge which means we have had to delay opening the footbridge to the public."

"We apologise for any inconvenience caused and would like to thank passengers for bearing with us as we work to resolve this issue as quickly as we can."

Football contest lifts charity



St Martins lift the trophy after coming from two-nil down to beat The Oak

A FOOTBALL tournament which has run for 41 years has raised £11,500 for Leukaemia Research in the past 12 months.

The Graham Edwards Memorial Trophy got the fundraising ball rolling again at the weekend with the final of its annual football tournament. It was founded in memory of Graham Edwards, a 21-year-old footballer from Gobowen who died from leukaemia.

This year's final at Gobowen Playing Fields on Sunday saw St Martins triumph over The Oak, Oswestry, following a thrilling last 10 minutes. Tournament organiser Andrew Faulks, who is also vice-president of St Martins, said: "The Oak was winning 2-0 and then St Martins scored three times in the last 10 minutes."

In the under 13s junior tournament Oswestry Boys and Girls Club beat Gobowen. The New Saints' Adrian Cieslewicz presented the trophy to the winners.

During the day a cheque for £11,500 was handed to Leukaemia Research, bringing the total raised over the years to £130,000.

"It is a huge sum and it is great to see the tournament raising money and carrying on over all these years," Mr Faulks said. "Sunday was a great community event, we had about 350 people at the playing fields."

The tournament's fundraising will continue later this year when its annual dinner is staged at the Lion Quays Hotel and Spa near Oswestry on October 11. For tickets contact Mr Faulks on 07854 742729.



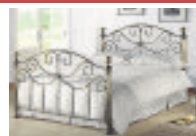
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Business event to create economic vision for town

Report by Sue Austin

A MAJOR business expo will be held in October which organisers say will create an economic vision for Oswestry.

The Oswestry Vision event will be held at the Lion Quays Hotel on October 22 and will be a joint venture between the town's chamber of commerce and Shropshire Chamber of Commerce.

Among the keynote speakers will be Paul Forrest, an economist with West Midlands Economic Forum.

Oswestry Chamber of Commerce chairman Jools Payne said the expo would investigate what business opportunities were available to firms in the area, particularly as the town sits on the A5 Holyhead corridor, and added she was delighted Mr Forrest would be attending.

Groups get a chance to help library

PEOPLE living in and around Gobowen have an opportunity to shape the future of the library service in the village.

Shropshire Council has said it can no longer afford to run branches libraries as it has done in the past but is keen to work with volunteers and organisations to keep libraries in the communities.

The council is inviting voluntary and private sector organisations to help shape and develop the future of Gobowen library – starting with an open afternoon at the library.

It says this will build on consultation undertaken to date with local library users, local residents and partnership groups.

The library will be opening its doors on August 18 between 2pm and 6pm for library users and local residents to share their thoughts on future opportunities for the service and the building.

Gobowen councillor David Lloyd said: "This is an opportunity for community enterprises and other organisations to visit the library to look around, talk to staff and find out more about its valuable work with a view to seeing whether there is a synergy with their own work that could complement the library service and the other community-based services in Gobowen."

For more information on the open day call Teresa Eccleston on 01691 677338 or Corrie Davies, community enablement officer at Shropshire Council, on 01691 677306.

No garden play for family



Sarah Ford with daughter Lilian beside the problematic drain

A GOBOWEN mother will not be letting her daughter play in the garden this summer.

For Sarah Ford's garden was repeatedly flooded with raw sewage over a period of eight months.

The long-running problem came to a head recently when raw sewage not only appeared again in the garden in West Place but also came up through manhole covers in the Fernhill area of the village.

After the long-standing problems were highlighted by a petition signed by hundreds of villagers, Severn Trent discovered a dropped drain was the problem and says it has now fixed it.

But the company has told Miss Ford not to work the soil for the next six months – and as a result she will not be allowing 15-month-old Lilian to play outside in the garden.

Miss Ford and partner Mark had spent many hours cultivating their garden with gravel paths and flower beds and vegetables – only to see their hard work ruined.

"How can I let Lilian play in the garden?" she said.

"There has been no mention of moving the manhole as they seem quite sure that once they have carried out the repair work I won't have a problem again."

Severn Trent bosses have previously said its workers had been out to West Place on several occasions to clear the sewer and had also been carrying out further investigations

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BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

There was outcry across the Shropshire/Powys border when county councils turned off street lighting to save cash, so I wonder what the reaction would have been to a decision taken in North Wales.

It's hard to believe (but it seems true) that council bosses in Llandudno turned off street lights because they were proving too bright for sexual activity. But relax – it was the mating habits of glow worms that was causing concern.

The glow worm population on the Great Orme was under real threat after sodium lighting proved too bright and turned the male insects away from the females.

But council bosses threw the switch and all is now well again with coastal mating habits.

Get those lights back on quickly in Shropshire and Powys or we could soon be experiencing the next baby boom.

Living next to a council-owned dingle means an annual battle to keep brambles and brush away from spreading on to our land – after all we couldn't expect the local authority to look after its own mess could we?

So imagine my reaction when discovering the usual brushwood killer product which I had been buying for the last 20 years had been downgraded in strength on health and safety grounds, thanks to some obscure EU regulations. Since we teamed up with our European cousins we have turned into a nation of do-gooders.

There was a way around it of course. I just bought double the amount and the brambles are already wilting away. The downside, I paid double the normal cost.

How proud I am to be part of Europe.

The future of Welshpool's controversial one-way system now lies in the hands of the Welsh government's economy and transport minister Edwina Hart after she finally agreed to meet Welshpool Town Council representatives and Montgomeryshire AM Russell George to discuss potential changes.

And the good news is that At last everyone is singing from the same hymn sheet about the proposed changes to return Brook Street to a two-way system.

This week Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies joined Mr George and added his weight to the campaign by backing Welshpool Town Council's scheme to relieve the traffic congestion and improve town centre safety.

Ms Hart has announced that she will not be standing again at the 2016 Welsh Government Assembly elections.

Let's hope her parting gesture will be to return Welshpool to some of its former glory.



Chance to improve care and cut costs – the Princess Royal Hospital in Telford



Virginia Mason is known for its programmes to reduce healthcare operating costs



Support for frontline teams – the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital will be guided by American partners

Trans-Atlantic lessons for healthcare chiefs

Shropshire's NHS trust has successfully bid to be part of a 'trailblazing' scheme. AMY DOWNWARD reports

IT is regarded as one of the safest hospitals in the world.

And now staff from the Virginia Mason Institute in Seattle, Washington, will be sharing their practices with staff at Shropshire's two main hospitals – the Royal Shrewsbury and the Princess Royal in Telford.

The plans will see staff from the American hospital mentoring five NHS trusts in England with the aim of transforming practices and cutting waste.

As well as the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust, the others involved in the five-year partnership are: University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust; Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust; Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust.

Deaths

It is hoped the partnership will help to cut the 800 avoidable deaths estimated to occur every month in hospitals in England.

Peter Herring, outgoing chairman of the Shropshire Trust, said it had to bid for a place on the partnership, describing the selection process as "extremely competitive".

The trust is forecasting an overspend of £18.2 million over the financial year, is struggling to cut high spending on agency nurses. Mr Herring said the partnership would "bring skills and support to frontline teams to change care for the better".

He described the partnership as "trailblazing".



Virginia Mason is a 336-bed acute care hospital

Mr Herring said: "The selection process was extremely competitive, with three stages of assessment.

"I am extremely proud that the bid put together by the board with clinical colleagues across the trust has been successful, and as I leave the trust the team here is looking forward to this exciting programme of change that over time will bring enormous benefits to our patients and staff alike."

Costs

Virginia Mason is a 336-bed acute care hospital and is known for its programmes to reduce healthcare operating costs.

Gary Kaplan, chief executive officer of Virginia Mason, took his entire hospital leadership staff to Toyota's factories in Japan in 2002 to study methods

of improving efficiency. The Seattle-based institute will share its safety systems that include increasing bedside nursing care and using an "electronic dashboard" to ensure regular monitoring of intensive care patients.

There will also be a crackdown on time-wasting practices.

David Sandbach, former chief executive of the Princess Royal Hospital, welcomed the idea.

He said: "I think this development is a real step in the right direction."

Mr Sandbach said Dr Bill Gowans, the vice chairman of the Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group, which is responsible to buying health care for patients, had been on a fact finding trip to the States.

Mr Sandbach said: "The management approach to delivering hospital services in the States is driven by the

need to deliver convenient, high quality services at a competitive price.

"Unlike in the UK, failure there means the closure of a hospital.

"Consequently clinicians and management tend to innovate and develop services at a much faster rate than we do here."

Trends

Mr Sandbach said one of the trends in America was out-of-hospital care, which is what the Future Fit programme is considering as it looks at the future of the county's health services.

"Let's hope we see some trans-Atlantic learning happening and sharpish," Mr Sandbach said.

North Shropshire MP Owen Paterson said the partnership approach between British and American hospitals sounded like a good idea.

He said: "We welcome a lot of international health professionals at Oswestry's orthopaedic hospital so I am all in favour of learning best practice from other countries.

"It is a great way to share ideas.

"In fact when I was on a flight the other day I met a surgeon from Australia who said he had been to the orthopaedic hospital and thought it was fantastic."

Culture

Jeremy Hunt, Secretary of State for Health, said: "I want to make the NHS the safest healthcare system in the world, powered by a culture of learning and continuous improvement.

"The achievements at Virginia Mason over the past decade are truly inspirational and I'm delighted they will now help NHS staff to learn the lessons that made their hospital one of the safest in the world – patients will see real benefits as a result."

The programme will run over five years and is aimed at setting the five NHS trusts on the road to becoming leading healthcare institutions.

WORKING FOR YOU



By Glyn Davies MP

This column has featured the reform of the major hospital structure in Shropshire before. I'm returning to the issue this week for two reasons: firstly, because we are reaching decision time; and secondly, because there is so much misinformation and misunderstanding surrounding what's happening.

The underlying problem is that the current Shropshire NHS structure is totally unsustainable. The population of Shropshire and Mid Wales, which has traditionally used the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital and Telford's Princess Royal, is insufficient to justify two major hospitals providing the full range of services. The Shrewsbury and Telford Trust which manages them is massively in debt, and heading for bankruptcy unless there is reform. This would be a disaster for everyone.

There really is only one way to go. One of the two major hospitals will become a centre for emergency care, while the other will become a centre for diagnostic and elective care. At present we do not know which hospital will provide these services. But it does inevitably mean that the range of services offered at both hospitals will be reduced. Patients living in Montgomeryshire will be opposed to services being lost to Telford, while patients living east of Telford will be opposed to services being lost to Shrewsbury.

I had hoped that a new emergency centre would be built between Shrewsbury and Telford, which would eventually become the one Shropshire and Mid Wales Hospital. But sadly, and disappointingly, I fear this optimum option is unrealistically expensive.

We have reached decision time. This week we will learn the final short list of options. In September we will learn what is the preferred option. A formal consultation will begin before the end of the year, ending before Welsh Assembly election purdah begins in March next year. I still do not know what options have been canvassed by those charged with representing the Welsh interest.

About 40 per cent of those patients currently attending A&E in the two Shropshire hospitals today will not be accepted in the new emergency centre. They will be treated in a network of urgent care centres across Shropshire. We have no idea what will happen to the Welsh 40 per cent. We urgently need to know what's planned.

There are many other questions as well. As Montgomeryshire's MP, this issue is my greatest concern.

This week the picture will become much clearer.

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HOW CAN I STOP MY GRANDSON GOING INTO CARE AND HAVE HIM LIVE WITH ME?

Q: For the last ten years I have hardly seen my daughter who is an alcoholic. I have tried to offer her help but she has lied to me and stolen from me. She lives with her partner and 6-year old son. Her partner is also an alcoholic and I have heard that the Local Authority is involved with the family because they believe my grandson is not being cared for appropriately. I would be prepared to care for my grandson what steps should I take to ensure he is not placed in foster care?

A: If the Local Authority deems that your grandson's care and home arrangements are such that he may be at risk of suffering significant harm, then they will certainly become involved with the family. If your daughter and her partner cannot care for him appropriately then the Local Authority have a duty to consider placing him with a family member. The Local Authority could only place a child in circumstances where they already have a Care Order, or alternatively your daughter and her partner could agree voluntarily for him to come and live with you.

In the circumstances you should contact the Local Authority to make them aware of your connection and that you are prepared to care for your grandson. If this is the case then a private arrangement can be agreed for you to care for your grandson.

If however the Local Authority has taken the matter to Court and a Care Order has been made, you will be assessed prior to any placement of your grandson with you. This is a complex area of law and therefore it is vital that you seek expert legal advice quickly in order to progress the matter appropriately.

Further information relating to this question is available from Anne Davies, a Senior Solicitor with GHP Legal.

For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194 or visit www.ghplegal.com

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Letters

Save this iconic art deco landmark

I AM writing to request the help and support of readers for the Save The Clifton project.

It is a fact that Wellington has not received any support from Telford & Wrekin Council's Community Pride scheme. Little money has been invested in Wellington in recent years, despite many council owned buildings being recently sold.

Wellington itself has no community centre, and Telford has no designated arts centre or in fact any cultural provision anywhere in the borough.

This project would provide jobs and apprenticeships for local people, would in-

crease the footfall in Wellington and thus impact on the local businesses and would help to regenerate the town centre of Wellington.

The project would also increase tourism, with people visiting local attractions such as The Wrekin, Attingham Park and Sunnycroft and then coming to Wellington for the Clifton Community Arts Centre. The Clifton building is the last art deco building left in Wellington and deserves a better fate than the threat of demolition.

This handsome and iconic building could enhance the entrance to Wellington, instead of being the eyesore it currently

presents, as a neglected and weed strewn relic. The people of Wellington deserve the same facilities as the people of Shrewsbury, Wem and Market Drayton, who all have thriving arts venues and independent cinemas. These facilities have proved to be immensely popular.

The people of Wellington also deserve the same consideration as those in Madeley and St Georges, who have benefitted greatly from the community pride fund. Why has no money been allocated to Wellington?

We deserve better!
J WOODYET
Wellington

Greeks have been misled and are now floundering

I FIND it hard to understand why Greece, with a massive national debt, elected a no austerity government.

It is obviously clear that no individual or government should be allowed to build up such a huge deficit that they find that they are unable to repay it.

I feel sorry for the Greek people who have been misled and left to flounder in an economical desert, not by the present administration but by the previous one as well.

However, I do not feel that the blame can be attributed to just those governments.

After more than five years of austerity, for which the EU must partly take the blame for lending them such ridiculous amounts of money, knowing full well that they would be unable to repay, it reminds me of many individuals who are allowed massive amounts on their credit cards and find that they have a debt they struggle or are unable to pay.

I am not sure of what fate awaits the Greek nation, or if they will be allowed to remain within the EU, but their overwhelming "no" in the referendum makes me believe that they would probably be better off out.

The EU put massive restrictions on all its members, and charges them what I call a massive daily membership fee.

So if David Cameron does give us the opportunity of a yes/no, in/out vote, after 40 years of ineffectual benefits then I would vote, and I would be on the side of an out vote.

M EDDIES
Shrewsbury

Seeking to find family

I AM trying to trace descendants of a private George Griffiths 17312 who served alongside my uncle Jim Howells in the KSLI during the First World War.

My father has letters from George to Uncle Jim and we would like to be able to show them to George's relatives but we cannot find out any information about him.

My dad Robert is the youngest and last surviving brother of Jim (Thomas James Howells) and was born in 1918 at our then family home in Cleeton St Mary after Jim was killed at the battle of the Somme in 1916.

In a last letter to Jim dated July 6, 1916, George wrote that he was going to be discharged from Cheadle Hulme military hospital and returning to his home in Woodcote, Newport, Salop. We don't know if Jim ever got to read that letter as he was killed on July 15.

If anyone has any information about George, whether he was married, had a family to return to, or if you would like to read the letters, we would very much welcome any contact to libbyhowells@hotmail.co.uk

ELIZABETH HOWELLS
Ludlow

Engine sheds recall town's railway history



Older Oswestry folk will need no telling about the town's heritage as a major railway centre, and a few of them may even recall having worked in these buildings – as these are the engine sheds in the town. Unfortunately, we don't have the date of the photo, which comes from Shropshire Archives.

Time to rally around farmers and pay a fair price for milk

HOW pleased I was to see our local farmers expressing their dissatisfaction at the crazy milk prices.

The French know how to put their point forward and cause as much disruption as they can. It works and they get results. It's about time our farming community got together and did the same. Talking about it does no good – the government takes no notice and do nothing at all. Why can we not have a government fixed price for all milk?

If we all could afford a couple of pence for each litre of milk it would go a long way to help the farmers and ensure the supply of our own-grown English milk.

What about putting collection tins at each supermarket or shop till for anyone who agrees to drop their pennies in? I am sure the supermarkets or shop owners would have no objection; they allow collections for other charities.

Let's all get together, including the supermarkets shops and milkmen, like in 1939-45 when we all pulled together.

TERRY WHYTON
Eardington

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Readers' Letters,
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Telford, TF1 5HU

EMAIL

letters@oswestry
chronicle.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Be wary of a ground war

WE watched a programme on BBC4 about civilisation attacked by Islamic State. It showed the terrible destruction of architectural sites by this terror organisation.

A leading American during the programme stated we in the West must make a full scale war including ground troops. The trouble being you would fall into their trap. Have increased air attacks, yes, let this fascist organisation burn itself out by other Muslim forces.

J R BROWN
Shrewsbury

Let us all have a happy vision once again please

IT'S funny.

Everyone goes on about arthritis, loss of memory, etc, but no-one mentions the perks of old age.

Like the visions, the flash-backs.

I had one just now.

It was brilliant!

There we were, a group of neighbours from Knockin, waiting at the bus stop, talking and laughing and happy because we knew the bus would turn up and take us to Oswestry or to Shrewsbury and even bring us back!

Who could ask for more?

Ah, those were the days all right, us thinking how lucky we were having buses every two hours, unlike some poor sods who had to wait a week or had none at all.

If there should happen to be anyone out there who cares send us a timetable, send us a contact number, send us a bus.

Or failing that send us another of those beautiful visions.

JUNO MCKITTRICK
Knockin
Oswestry

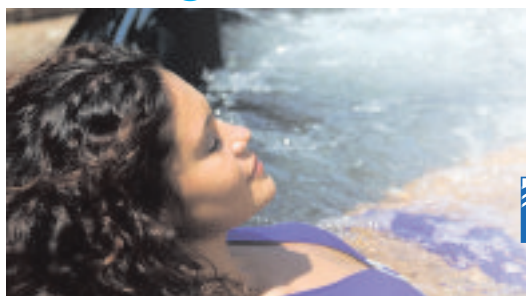
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Consultation on surgery changes

FEWER people could have surgery under plans to review major hip and knee surgery services in Shropshire.

The NHS Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group is proposing altering the threshold for surgery and has invited people to consultation events discussing the plans.

Under the plans, all patients referred will be seen and offered support as they already are – but fewer will have surgery.

Consultation sessions will be held around the county to discuss the proposals and people can meet NHS representatives to put forward ideas about how to spend money more wisely and plan for the future of health care services.

There will also be online and face-to-face surveys where people can share their views.

A consultation session will take place at The Marches School in Oswestry on August 20, from 6pm to 8pm.

To book a place visit www.shropshireccg.nhs.uk

Military Wives Choir fundraiser

SHAWBURY Military Wives Choir is to perform in Gobowen Scout Hall on September 26 at 7.30pm.

The choir will raise funds for Preeshenille United Reformed Church, Gobowen Womens' Institute, as well as for itself.

Entertainer Ruth Moore-Williams will feature with the choir.

Organisers of the event said there are still some tickets available at a cost of £10.

These are available from Helen Cattell on 01691 656914, Brenda Cassidy on 01691 658016 and from Tinsleys Fish and Chip Shop, Gobowen.

Delight as upgrade of phone system is agreed

Report by Sue Austin

PHONE users will be able to use 4G for the first time in Oswestry as mobile giants work to get the county connected.

Vodafone and Telefonica, which operates the O2 network, will upgrade their jointly-owned mast in Oswald Road in Oswestry to boost the service in the area.

The plans received the go-ahead from Shropshire Council planners and will mean the end of the enhancement of the company's 2G, 3G and 4G mobile data service.

So far mobile signal in the area has been distinctly lacking, with no 4G and at times no signal at all.

But this upgrade will mean Vodafone and O2 customers will be able to get better signal than other networks in Oswestry, which have yet to announce 4G upgrades for the area. The news has been welcomed by business people and officials, who have been calling for improvements to the mobile phone coverage in the town for months.

Councillor Keith Barrow, Shropshire Council leader and Shropshire Councillor for Oswestry East, recently held high profile talks with mobile phone companies and the Government watchdog Ofcom in a bid to improve service in the area.

He said: "I am absolutely delighted. It is absolutely ridiculous that you cannot get mobile phone signal in Oswestry."

"Hopefully the meeting we have had previously is now proving worthwhile. The mobile phone companies knew they had to move things forward and hopefully we are now realising those improvements."

"It is now for the other providers to follow suit."

Famous local battle remembered



Clayton Roberts from the re-enactment group Cwmud Ial at the historic bridge near Chirk

IT was one of the most ferocious battles between the English and the Welsh, and now one historian is to commemorate it.

Mark Williams is organising an event to remember the 12th century Battle of Crogen, in which troops assembled in Shropshire to take on the Welsh. The 53-year-old has

spent years keeping the memory of the most significant event in Welsh medieval history alive.

He has already helped to put up a plaque at Chirk and now a second plaque is going up on the appropriately named, Pont Rhyd y Gad – Battleford Bridge – at the head of the Ceiriog Valley near Hendre.

The plaque will be officially unveiled in a ceremony on August 22, which will include the appearance of re-enactors in full costume.

This year sees the 850th anniversary of the conflict between the invading forces of King Henry II of England and an alliance of Welsh princes led by Owain Gwynedd.

Hospital is among best in NHS for cleanliness

OSWESTRY'S orthopaedic hospital is among the best in the country for its infection prevention and cleanliness.

The hospital had a 94 per cent cleanliness rating for the first quarter of the year, compared to the national target 84 per cent. There were no instances of the superbugs MRSA, C difficile or MSSA bacteraemia.

In high-risk areas of the hospital the figures were even higher, with a cleanliness rating of more than 99 per cent in the theatre, high-dependency unit and surgical wards.

The figures were praised at the latest hospital trust board meeting.

Jane Downey, director of nursing and infection prevention and control at Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, said the hospital in Gobowen strived for low infection rates.

She said that instances of wound infection were very low with just one infection from 424 knee replacements, three in 403 hip replacements and three in 199 spinal surgery procedures.

"A key objective of the hospital is to maintain a clean culture and to ensure that hand hygiene and infection prevention and control is embedded in the management agenda and the accountability of all staff," she said.

She said the hospital had an infection prevention and control team to help the hospital combat infections.

It comes as the hospital's new £15.1 million theatre complex is starting to take shape. New theatres and wards are being built as part of the development, which will include the hospital's bone cancer centre's outpatients area and a new inpatient ward.

The project is due to be completed in September 2016.

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New health centre set to open doors

LLANGOLLEN Health Centre will open its doors later this month.

The multi-million pound facilities along the River Dee will provide numerous NHS services under one roof.

The health board held a public open day last week before it is officially up and running on August 24. The new GP centre has been built on the site of the former River Lodge hotel.

Among the visitors was Welsh Assembly member, Ken Skates.

Mr Skates said: "I'm grateful to the health board for allowing residents of Llangollen to have a look around this fantastic new facility."

He praised Brymbo-based builders Read Construction and paid tribute to his predecessor Karen Sinclair, who he said had worked incredibly hard for a very long time to bring this health centre to Llangollen.

"She deserves a huge amount of credit for insuring we have such a state-of-the-art facility to serve the town for many years to come."

The new Llangollen health centre will bring together the town's GP practice with a number of services including outpatient clinics, mental health services and voluntary-sector programmes.

Coding session for youngsters

YOUNG people with an interest in computer programming can try it out at a free taster drop-in session to be held on Saturday, August 15 from 1pm to 3pm.

The session will be held at Oswestry Library, in Arthur Street.

For more information about the event email oswestry.library@shropshire.gov.uk or telephone 01691 677388.

Stores offer something different for shoppers

WE MEAN BUSINESS

THE Oswestry and Border Chronicle's We Mean Business campaign celebrates Oswestry's businesses. This week we feature Earthlink and Good Vibrations in Leg Street.

Earthlink and Good Vibrations are two shops under one roof.

Earthlink is the oldest ethnic gift shop in Oswestry, trading in the town for over 20 years.

Owner Beverley Galloway first opened up shop in Queens Court in 1992 - at what is now the Qube arts and community centre - after running successful shops in Walsall and Ellesmere.

In 2010 Earthlink moved to 31 Leg Street in the shop it shares with Good Vibrations, the fancy dress shop run by Beverley's husband, John.

Earthlink has always done ear and nose piercing and in 2001, Beverley qualified in body piercing and it became Oswestry's first shop to stock such a huge range of body jewellery.

Good Vibrations is Oswestry's fancy dress shop catering for all your fancy dress and party needs. Opened by John Galloway, Good Vibrations started up back in 2008 selling fancy dress costumes and accessories such as beards, wigs and props.

In October 2012, John diversified selling electronic cigarettes and e-liquid from Totally Wicked Products.



Beverley Galloway from Earthlink and Good Vibrations in Leg Street, Oswestry

NEWS IN BRIEF

Views are sought over 20mph zones

A CONSULTATION on 20mph speed limits has been launched by West Mercia's police and crime commissioner.

Bill Longmore is asking for views on where people would like to see more 20mph zones introduced in Shropshire.

The lower speed limits have already been put in place outside some schools and on other known accident blackspots.

Mr Longmore said: "As this is a very emotive subject, I would like to hear views from many more people to see if this is really what residents want and if it is suitable for parts of West Mercia. Normally, this 20mph limit applies to all residential areas and all streets outside schools and does not apply to A roads."

"But do you want more of these 20mph zones set up in the area where you live or go to work?"

Views can be given to Mr Longmore by emailing opcc@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Rise in overseas visitors to county

SHROPSHIRE enjoyed a record year for tourism in 2014, with 120,000 overseas visitors coming to the county according to new figures.

The new figures show a six per cent increase compared to the previous year.

They were welcomed by tourism minister Tracey Crouch.

Miss Crouch said: "Shropshire offers a great and varied mix of sights and experiences. It's fantastic that so many tourists visited the county in 2014. Competition for global travellers has never been higher, which is why we must continue to invest and support the UK's tourism offer."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Break-ins warning to homeowners

POLICE in Welshpool are warning people to secure their homes when they go on holiday this summer. They said a third of all burglaries are crimes of opportunity, through unlocked doors or windows.

PCSO Gary Gwilt, of Welshpool Police, said there had been a recent trend across the country for two-in-one burglaries, where thieves steal the car off the drive to make their getaway.

He said: "Residents need to secure their homes against potential intruders. Lock and secure your home at all times."

He added that people should not close their curtains when going away as in daytime it shows the house is empty.

Nature expert to give wildlife talk

CONSERVATIONIST, television presenter and wildlife expert Iolo Williams will be visiting Welshpool in December to talk about the area's wildlife.

Mr Williams, who has appeared frequently on BBC and S4C nature programmes, will be talking at Welshpool Town Hall at 7pm on December 2.

Tickets are priced £10 to include refreshments and are available from the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust office in Welshpool.

A raffle will also be held and all proceeds will go to the Dolforwyn Woods Appeal.

Organisers of the event say that tickets are limited. To book a place call 01938 555654 or visit www.montwt.co.uk

Force says it is winning the war against thugs

Report by Andrew Morris

POLICE in Mid Wales are winning the war on anti-social behaviour while delivering the cheapest service in Wales, it has been claimed.

Dyfed-Powys Police said it has managed to cut the number of anti-social behaviour crimes from 23,910 to 18,430 in the last two years.

It has also increased the number of bobbies on the beat from 1,133 in 2013 to 1,171 currently, while the cost of policing per person per week is £3.78 – the lowest anywhere in Wales.

Christopher Salmon, the force's police and crime commissioner, said he had also delivered £3.7 million savings in the past two years while cutting the taxpayers' precept.

He added that the use of police cautions has fallen by 9.6 per cent since 2012/13.

He said: "I have listened hard to what the people of Powys have told me in my three years in the job.

"My work to help our communities has two aims – to lessen the cost of crime, both physical and emotional and to lower the cost of policing.

"This has been a year of delivery. I have delivered new mobile technology. That will release 100,000 extra hours of time for frontline duties.

"I have delivered £3.7 million savings which has allowed by to lighten the load on taxpayers. I have cut the precept by five per cent for 2015/16."

RSPCA rescues orphaned otter cub



The orphaned otter cub was found at Cyfronydd, near Welshpool

AN orphaned otter cub has been taken into RSPCA care after she was found on the side of the road.

A member of the public spotted the lethargic otter on Thursday evening last week at Glanhafren, Cyfronydd, near Welshpool. He later saw the otter again and took the otter home in a box for safety until the RSPCA arrived.

RSPCA inspector Phil Lewis has now taken the otter cub to RSPCA's Stapeley Grange Wildlife Centre in Cheshire for rehabilitation. Mr Lewis said: "She was uninjured, but was without her parents so has been taken to our wildlife centre for rehabilitation. The cub is doing okay at the moment and is eating well which is encouraging."

"We advise monitoring first to check that a baby wild animal is genuinely orphaned or abandoned, as mum is often nearby and waiting for you to leave.

"If you are concerned for the welfare of a young wild animal that seems to be alone, please watch from a distance and call the RSPCA's Cruelty & Advice line on 0300 1234 999."

Town crier competition postponed

A PLANNED competition to recruit a town crier in Welshpool was postponed due to a lack of entries.

Welshpool Town Council had planned to hold the competition in the town centre on Sunday with contestants due to deliver cries in front of the public.

But the council had postponed the event for a month in a bid to gather more entries.

The competition was due to be judged by Shrewsbury town crier Martin Wood and Montgomery crier Sue Blower.

Robert Robinson, Welshpool town clerk, said: "Due to the poor number of entries this event has been postponed until September. Please look out for further details in due course."

The competitors were asked to prepare an interesting fact about the town as part of their cry.

The winning candidate will hold the post for at least three years, during which they will be asked to attend numerous town events, such as the carnival and the winter festival. Those wishing to enter are asked to call 01938 553142 or e-mail: townclerk@welshpooltowncouncil.gov.uk

Church restorers to hold open day

A CHURCH in Welshpool which is lived in by a family will hold an open day later this month.

The event at Christ Church, High Street, will be held on August 16, from 10am to 4pm. Karl Meredith and Natalie Bass bought the church in 2003 and are restoring it.

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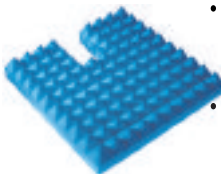


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The building of Aldi's second Oswestry store has begun

Aldi bosses have eyes on more outlets in county

DISCOUNT supermarket Aldi has revealed plans for up to six new stores across Shropshire as part of a £600 million expansion.

With shops already under construction in Newport and Oswestry the company says it could soon be announcing a new store in the south of Telford.

And negotiations are also under way for land deals for two new stores in Shrewsbury and one in Whitchurch.

The shops could bring 300 new jobs to the county and help town centres to flourish, Aldi's regional property director said.

George Brown revealed the company's plans for Shropshire when he visited Aldi's new site in Shrewsbury Road, Oswestry

– a second store for the north Shropshire town.

"Our current store in Oswestry is now 15 years old and it has been so successful that we needed a second store to spread the load for the number of shoppers we have in the town and its catchment," he said.

Aldi's £600m nationwide expansion includes hiring 8,000 more staff and opening hundreds of new stores.

The supermarket is aiming to increase its UK workforce to 35,000, as well as open 130 new stores in the two-year planned investment, which it says will lay the foundation for 25 years of growth.

Aldi has boomed in recent years and in April it overtook Waitrose as the UK's

sixth-biggest supermarket, with 5.3 per cent of the market share.

In Shropshire the new store in Newport off the A41 will open on August 27 with Oswestry in December, in time for the Christmas market.

"Shrewsbury, with just one store, is a large target town for Aldi," Mr Brown said.

"We have two sites over which we are having advanced negotiations. We would see Shrewsbury as a three if not four store town."

He said Telford already had three stores north of the M54 and one to the south.

"I am hopeful that we will make an announcement shortly about a second store to the south," he said.

The secret to the company's success, he said, was in its attitude to shopping.

"There has been a major shift in shopping habits and people now to shop in smaller stores, two or three times a week," he said.

"They also want good quality, good value produce."

Aldi currently has four stores in Telford – in Wellington, Ironbridge, Snedshill and on the Wellington Road as well as one in Arlington Way, Shrewsbury, another in Stourbridge Road, Bridgnorth, and its store in Oswald Road, Oswestry.

Mr Brown said that Aldi wanted to be seen as a community store, with a catchment of about 20,000 customers.

PRICE OF STORE WARS

Report by Thom Kennedy

SHOPPERS in Shropshire are changing their habits – and discount retailers like Aldi and Lidl are the ones who are benefitting.

Our survey of local people's retail habits has revealed that while most people still do most of their shopping in big superstores, the figure is almost matched by the number of people heading through the doors of the upstart discounters.

And local people are having little truck with the idea that smaller, high street metro-type outlets are to dominate their future retail habits.

That's one of the key findings of the survey, which reveals that the industry's emphasis on building more small shops instead of extending their network of huge, edge-of-town megastores, is not reflected in local habits.

Of the hundreds of people who took part in the poll, 77.5 per cent said they use a big superstore most often, compared with 10.9 per cent who use smaller shops.

In a county which prides itself on its range of independent retailers, just 11.6 per cent of respondents said they use smaller local shops most often.

Change

It all suggests that the shopping habits which have served the supermarket industry well in the last 10 years remain well entrenched in Shropshire, even if people are choosing to head for a different name than in the past.

Sainsbury's chief executive Mike Coupe said he believed a change in habits was taking effect.

He said: "The world of the one-stop shop, the big shop, and building large shops has changed."

"For 25 years our industry was driven by that dynamic – build larger shops, build more shops, and the customers will come."

"Whether it is driven by the recession or whether it is driven by the rise of technology, what we are seeing is a world where customers have more choices available to them than ever, and they are choosing to shop in a different way."

"They are still shopping in larger shops but they are also choosing to shop in smaller shops, convenient shops. They are tending to shop more frequently and when they shop they buy less."

"Of course, with the rise of the internet, increasingly they have options online."

That perceived change in habits has led to chains cancelling projects and closing some stores.

Morrisons announced plans in January to close its branch in Donnington in Telford.

The same store chain has also launched a review into its plans to be part of a £45 million development on Oswestry's Smithfield Market site.

Collapse

The short-term likelihood of a supermarket being included in the redevelopment Telford town centre has also receded after it was not included in the latest planning application. Meanwhile, a plan to build a Sainsbury's in Newport was scrapped last year.

There are similar stories across the West Midlands. In Wolverhampton, plans to regenerate the former Royal Hospital and the surrounding area within the city centre have collapsed after Tesco pulled out.

Further afield, the drawing back of supermarkets from large stores has even led to the collapse of a new football stadium. Bristol Rovers had agreed with Sainsbury's to build a store on its existing ground, funding a 23,000-seater stadium elsewhere. Sainsbury's



Supermarkets arose from the trend away from High Streets to a one-stop shopping experience but the trend is starting to reverse

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY OF LOCAL PEOPLE'S SHOPPING HABITS

1. WHICH OF THESE BEST DESCRIBES HOW YOU SHOP FOR GROCERIES?	2. WHAT KIND OF SUPERSTORE DO YOU USE MOST OFTEN?	3. WHICH OF THESE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT WHEN YOU SHOP?	4. WHICH OF THESE MOST DESCRIBES HOW YOUR HABITS HAVE CHANGED?	5. IF YOU COULD ONLY SHOP IN ONE STORE, WHICH WOULD IT BE?
● I do a big weekly or fortnightly shop 49.8pc	● I tend to use a big superstore 77.5pc	● Value for money 53.1pc	● I visit Aldi and Lidl more often 43.9pc	● Tesco 16.4pc
● I shop little and often 35.5pc	● A smaller 'metro' type store 10.9pc	● Customer service 2.2pc	● I shop at smaller 'metro' type stores 7.5pc	● Asda 16.9pc
● I do most of my shopping online 14.7pc	● I shop in smaller local shops 11.6pc	● Perks like loyalty cards 2pc	● I still mainly shop in larger stores 48.6pc	● S'bury's 23.2pc
		● Quality of food 42.7pc		● M'sons 11.8pc
				● Co-op 2pc
				● Aldi 15.5pc
				● Waitrose 10.1pc
				● Lidl 4.1pc

pulled out despite signing contracts and the issue has led to a long-running legal fight in the courts costing both parties hundreds of thousands of pounds. There is some movement, but it is restricted. Tesco, for example, is planning to open a new outlet in Shrewsbury – but it will be a small store in Pride Hill in the town centre. And there is certainly no prospect of existing superstores being demolished as shoppers desert them in droves.

In fact, in Shropshire, our survey revealed most people still like to do a big weekly shop. Around half of respondents said they do a weekly or fortnightly shop, with 35.5 per cent opting to buy little and often.

Around three in 10 Britons buy groceries online, yet only half that proportion in Shropshire – 14.75 per cent of our respondents – do most of their shopping via the web.

It seems clear from the results that the big change in people's shopping habits is in where they choose to spend their money, rather than the regularity with which they hand

over their coins. In business circles, the idea of disrupting the marketplace is common. In essence, it suggests an upstart competitor bringing new ideas to a well-established area of the economy, and funnelling sales away from the established players.

As the recession bit in Britain, and the average household was forced to scrimp and save, to cut every corner to find a way of making ends meet, the grocery sector was confronted by not one but two challengers.

Lidl and Aldi, which has a Bridgnorth store, have changed the face of British shopping. The social embarrassment of being caught shopping in one of the cut-price European mini-markets has waned, and more and more branches are appearing on Britain's streets. Now the "Big Four" – Asda, Morrisons, Sainsbury's and Tesco – have responded to this squeeze on their market share by slashing prices in stores.

That in turn has played a role in inflation in the UK dropping to near zero.

Since the beginning of 2013, Tesco's share of the UK grocery market has fallen from 30.4 to 28.6 per cent, second-placed Asda's by one percentage point to 16.5 per cent, and Sainsbury's from 17.1 to 16.5 per cent. Morrisons has 11 per cent of the market, down from 12 per cent two-and-a-half years ago.

It may not sound like much of a decline, but given the total value of the UK grocery market last year was £177.5 billion, and is expected to grow to more than £200 billion in the next four years, a one per cent fall in market share reflects £1.8 billion of sales that have eluded the country's established grocery giants.

Over the same period, Aldi has seen its market share grow from 3.2 per cent to 5.5 per cent, and Lidl from 2.7 per cent to 3.9 per cent – increases which meant their sales were worth an additional £4 billion and £2.13 billion respectively last year.

The other factor in all this is at the other end of the grocery market. Sainsbury's has

broadened its appeal and is no longer considered to be the sole preserve of the wealthy shopper. Now, Waitrose fills that niche, and has seen its sales increase accordingly, at once filling a gap in the market and squeezing the Big Four from the top.

It has seen its sales grow at a slower rate than the market upstarts, from 4.7 to 5.1 per cent, but has nonetheless added to the pressure on the established retailers to find new ways of appealing to customers.

So how does our survey of Shropshire shoppers' habits correspond to the national sales picture?

When asked about which single store they would use if they could only choose one, most of our respondents plumped for the third-placed British supermarket, with 23.19 per cent backing the chain with the orange branding.

Tesco, the long-time market leader, clocked up 16.43 per cent of respondents, pushing it into third place behind Asda, which is second both in our poll and in national sales figures.

However, that doesn't necessarily mean that it only has that proportion of the county's supermarket spend, as the specific question leaves open the possibility that people could shop in one store, but would rather visit another if it was more convenient.

Aldi outperformed fourth-placed Morrisons locally, and by no narrow margin – its 15.46 per cent share of the vote was nearly four percentage points ahead of the Bradford-based brand.

Lidl's 4.1 per cent share of the vote is similar to the national market share, and Waitrose has a far greater share of the Shropshire public's affections than it does the nation's cash, with 10.14 per cent voting for the up-market brand.

Doorstep

The fifth-placed supermarket in the county is actually the Co-op, which enjoys a 6.2 per cent share of sales – a figure unchanged from early 2013 – but only 1.9 per cent of readers consider it their favourite.

Shopping habits in Shropshire are, of course, affected by the availability of different stores.

The biggest towns, Shrewsbury and Telford, are both served by all the Big Four, with Shrewsbury also enjoying a town centre Waitrose outlet, with an out-of-town supermarket version on its way.

But other relatively large Shropshire towns have a smaller selection of options.

Oswestry, the county's third biggest town, has no Tesco or Asda, although Lidl has applied for planning permission and Aldi has won permission for a second store in the town.

Bridgnorth is chiefly served by a Sainsbury's, with Tesco offering a smaller metro branch.

As such, people's habits are likely to be influenced by what is available on their doorstep. The people of Newport, for example, may feel more inclined towards Waitrose than others in Telford & Wrekin thanks to the presence of a large supermarket in the town centre.

The habits of Shropshire people could also be to do with the county's demographic make-up – 28 per cent of the population is aged over 60, according to the 2011 census, compared with 22.6 per cent nationally.

Mr Coupe acknowledged the changing habits of different generations. "My youngest daughter shops almost exclusively online," he added.

"The challenge for us is to both get our offer to work for my mother, but also to accept and continue to enhance the experience for people like my daughter, who are the next generation coming through."

"I have said on a number of occasions that the death of the superstore is grossly exaggerated. Our challenge is to reinvent the superstore for the next generation."



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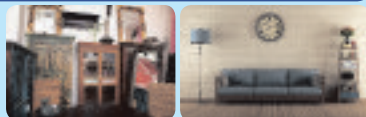
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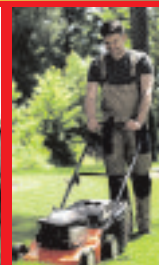
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Newtown is a great place for all the family



Hafren is Newtown's entertainment venue and one of the town's main attractions

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With a diverse range of performers and shows, Hafren offers something for all age groups, ranging from the

Welsh National Opera to Horrible Histories. The venue has an online ticket system and its summer brochure is available to download online. Hafren is also a leading conference and meeting venue in Mid Wales. The theatre auditorium and other facilities are available for conferences, business meetings and special functions.

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BJ'S Electrical is a family-run electrical retailer taking pride in our product knowledge and customer service.

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Advertising Feature

over price and choice, without losing the friendly and personal attention you would expect from a local store.

BJ's Electrical was founded in 1967 by Barrie Jarman and his wife Thea, and for the last 25 years the business has been run by their sons Larry and Tyrone Jarman.

We are a locally based audio, visual and domestic appliance retailer, and have grown from the original shop in Market Street, Newtown, opening our second shop in Welshpool in 2000. And

more recently in 2008 we opened our new 5,000sq foot superstore on the outskirts of Newtown.

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John has developed a real taste for success



John Langford and the sausage firm's Christine Gethin celebrate more award-winning success

FAMOUS for producing healthy, low salt, low fat, no MSG, no artificial flavours, 100 per cent British pork, award-winning John Langford has been making sausages for 37 years.

John started in the industry working as a 10-year-old boy cleaning in the butchers shop.

John started making his sausages with a hand blender and in 2003 due to

a great demand for all his products, he then opened a purpose built sausage factory in Mid Wales.

John said: "Working with locally sourced produce we manufacture over one million sausages a day."

"We supply McDonalds, Marks and Spencers, Wetherspoon in Newtown, Castell Howell and many others."

The Welshpool-based company is producing products that are always original for each and every customer, so much so they themselves have now become market leaders.

Each product is regularly entered into British competitions, winning many awards.

Delighted with the company's success, company director John said: "Our gluten free, low salt, low fat pork sausage has been developed over the past three years."

"We've perfected the recipe so that it can be enjoyed by hundreds of schoolchildren across the country and fit in with the healthy eating agenda."

"We sell 500,000 of our Lincolnshire Sausages every day."

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Investments set up firm's big sales push

A STRING of investments in a Shropshire factory is set to see a garage door manufacturer double its turnover in the next three years.

Alurall, part of the Evans Enterprises group on the edge of Oswestry, moved to a new 50,000 sq ft factory near the town's rugby club off Garrison Avenue in late 2013.

Since then it has continued its investment drive by installing new machinery, covering its roof with solar panels to make it almost energy neutral, and opening new offices beside its production plant.

The company, which makes aluminium garage doors and shutters, as well as steel security shutters in its sister business SteelRoll, has also built a factory in Nigeria to service the African security shutter market.

That is seeing products sent from Shropshire to the plant on the edge of the capital Lagos, where the equipment is assembled.

Now it has continued its self-funded investment drive by opening a showroom, comfortably the largest of its type in the country, which can exhibit the range of 30 products manufactured by the company.

The company is now preparing for a sales push that could see it grow its sales from just over £3 million to around £6 million.

Faster broadband

VILLAGES have welcomed the arrival of superfast broadband as a scheme rolls out across the area.

The first homes in Montgomery, Trefeglwys, Trewern, Talybont on Usk and Talgarth in Mid Wales have welcomed the broadband upgrade which has come thanks to Superfast Cymru.

Businesses rushing to generate green energy

Report by Iain St John

RENEWABLE energy schemes are becoming increasingly popular with Shropshire businesses, and an Oswestry-based solicitor says the trend is showing no sign of slowing down.

Solar panels are now a common sight as farmers and business owners look to generate their own energy and receive an income through the Feed-in Tariff scheme.

Emma Wilde, a lawyer at Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors in Oswestry who specialises in commercial and agricultural property, is working with more and more businesses who are looking at renewable energy systems such as solar panel installations on their buildings and land, or the creation of hydro-electric schemes and wind farms.

She said: "Farmers and landowners in particular are embracing the opportunity to use their land in a different way to bring in some extra income. But as well as farmers, business owners are seeing renewable energy as an effective way of cutting their costs and carbon emissions."

"Solar energy is rapidly becoming one of the lowest cost sources of electricity and is likely to grow in popularity, particularly as the government is working towards supplying 15 per cent of the UK's energy from renewable sources by 2020."

For more information about the legal issues surrounding renewable energy, contact Emma at Lanyon Bowdler in Church Street on (01691) 663767.

More new equipment for company



Gary Robinson, managing director, GWR Fasteners Limited, Mark Anson, senior area sales manager, Star Micronics GB Ltd and Jude Robinson, commercial director, GWR Fasteners Limited

A SHROPSHIRE-based firm, a manufacturer of special fasteners and precision components and standard fasteners distributor, has taken delivery of its third Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC) machine in just 16 months.

Multi-award winning GWR Fasteners Limited spent the first five years of operation building up a business worthy of financial investment in new CNC machinery.

The firm took delivery of the first machine in January last year but very quickly realised that the workload required a second machine which they ordered in March last year and took delivery of in September.

GWR Fasteners Limited is based in Oswestry and is jointly owned by Gary and Jude Robinson. Although they still distribute standard fasteners all over the world, the manufacturing arm of their business has grown so quickly and to such an extent, that the firm has taken delivery of its third CNC Machine to cope with the sheer workload. The firm is supplying special fasteners and precision components to a wide and varied customer base, to other fastener companies, to precision engineering companies, to the defence industry and to model steam engine designers to name but a few. All machines have been financed with the help of Close Brothers Asset Finance and, as with the first machine, this third machine has been supported by the Government's Regional Growth Fund.

Grant will help pallet firm expand

A MANUFACTURER is planning to expand its business after receiving a £5,000 European Capital Grant.

Shropshire Pallets & Timber Supplies has used the windfall to expand its new pallet manufacturing division and attract new customers.

The Oswestry firm, which supplies new and reconditioned pallets, applied for the grant through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) which is administered by Shropshire Council. The £5,000 grant – which was the maximum award available from the ERDF – contributed to the building of a new log cabin-style office and facilities for the pallet maker's workforce.

Previously the business's office function operated out of a portable office which was no longer fit for purpose as the business continued to grow and recruited more staff. The space created by removing the old portable office allowed the business to install a new state-of-the-art pallet making machine which has capacity to make up to 20,000 new pallets a week. Sarah Fleetwood, office manager at Shropshire Pallets & Timber Supplies, said: "The new office has made a real difference to how we function as a business. As our capacity for new work grew it was important that we looked ready for growth too."

The new office was built using locally-sourced FSC timber cut in the factory's own sawmill instead of buying from timber merchants. Councillor Steve Charnley, deputy leader of Shropshire Council, said: "It's excellent to hear about small businesses that have benefited from the external European funded schemes to move ahead with major capital projects, creating new jobs, and also supporting other local Shropshire businesses."

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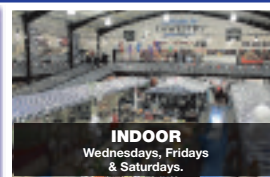
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SOURCE: The Newspaper Society - Consumer Catalyst 2014



Andrea Atherton, left, and Lady Linlithgow get ready for the open garden event

Owner to reveal hall's deadly secret at event

IT is a beautiful garden that hides a deadly secret.

Bryngwyn Hall at Bwlch y Cibau, near Llanfyllin, has acres of colourful plants and flowers, manicured lawns and feature trees, all lovingly restored by the owner, Lady Auriel Linlithgow.

Her latest project with has seen the creation of an unusual specialist area – a poison garden.

Members of the public will be able to find out more when the gardens are opened to the public for a charity event on August 23 from 2 until 6pm.

The event is raising money for two local good causes, the church and the village hall.

And many members of the community are volunteering to help out on the day, running stalls and offering home-made teas.

Report by Sue Austin

There will also be music from John Hughes, known as the Singing Farmer.

One of the volunteers, Pamela Morris, said: "The church and the village hall are at the heart of the village and both need help with funding. We are raising money at the moment for the central heating in the village hall. The community is indebted to Lady Linlithgow for allowing this event to go ahead."

"This is a very small community and we would like to encourage people to come and visit Bryngwyn Hall, where they will have a lovely afternoon and help us at the same time."

The Marchioness will herself be giving tours of the gardens at 2.45 and 4pm, which will include the new poison garden. Admission is £4 with children allowed to enter free of charge.

Lady Linlithgow explained how the poison garden came about.

"I had a foraging course here and I got a big gung-ho about what I could eat," she said. "I discovered that a lot of plants already here at Bryngwyn Hall were poisonous and it sparked an interest in what else was poisonous."

"We had a patch of garden we did not know what to do with and so set about creating a poison garden. We have have used lots of recycled items to create it; cobbles from the stables and park railings, for example."

Bryngwyn Hall Poison Garden, unique in Wales, contains some of the most poisonous plants in the UK.

She said she had researched, planned and designed the garden with her head gardener Andrea Atherton. It was officially opened this year by John Robertson, a poison plant expert.

House prices are on the increase, survey reveals

HOUSE prices in Shropshire and Mid Wales have increased in the past year – but trail way behind London, which has seen staggering rises of up to 32 per cent.

Figures released by the Office for National Statistics show that the Shrewsbury and Atcham constituency led the way for the region with the average price of a home increasing by five per cent last year.

Telford and Wrekin and Ludlow showed increases of only three per cent, while the prices of homes in North Shropshire and Montgomeryshire rose by only one per cent.

The figures are in stark contrast to Walthamstow in London where prices increased by 32 per cent, with the average home going from £250,000 to £330,000. Bottom of the pile was Bradford West where the average house price dropped from £104,250 to £80,000 – a staggering drop of 23 per cent.

In Shrewsbury and Atcham the average home went for £174,950 in 2014, as opposed to £167,000 in 2013. Homes in Ludlow went from £190,000 to £195,000, while houses in Telford and Wrekin are up to £135,000 from £131,098.

North Shropshire saw a rise of £1,000, from £164,000 to £165,000, while Montgomeryshire houses also enjoyed a modest increase to £152,000 from £151,000 in 2013.

According to the figures the most expensive place to buy a house in the UK is Kensington in London where the average home will cost £1.15 million. The cheapest place is The Rhondda in South Wales where the price of the average home has fallen to £59,975.

More courses to teach trade skills

THE construction department at the Oswestry Campus of North Shropshire College will be expanding next month to offer more courses in electrics, plumbing and bricklaying.

Work is under way to convert old teaching space into modern workshops and individual bays for the new courses.

Sharon Cooper, head of department for commercial services, said: "The area of construction has grown considerably, with a 400 per cent increase in plumbing applications alone over the past 12 months."

"We are delighted to expand the curriculum further within the construction department."

"The past year has been hugely successful, and we are fortunate to have had

such a dedicated team of staff. As a college we feel we are meeting the employment needs of the local community within the construction industry."

The new courses will teach Level 1 in electrical installation and Levels 1 and 2 in plumbing, building maintenance operations and bricklaying.

The college is looking to recruit tutors from an electrical and plumbing background on a full or part-time basis to teach these new courses.

For anyone within the trade who would like to become a tutor, the college is able to support them with PGCE training as part of the remuneration package. For more information visit www.nsc.ac.uk or call (01691) 688080.

Tourist site boost

IMPROVEMENTS have been made to a tourist attraction to help wheelchair users and families with pushchairs.

The improvements Horseshoe Falls near Llangollen include an extended recreational area and picnic site, and the launch of a free app – the Horseshoe Falls Quest – aimed at families with primary-school aged children.

Welsh deputy minister for culture, sport and tourism, Ken Skates AM, attended the official opening of the project. He said: "The new pathways and access opportunities means that visitors no longer have to negotiate the narrow lane to reach the River Dee."

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Dairy farmers urged to stand up together



A group of farmers last week demonstrated outside the Morrisons supermarket in Oswestry over milk prices.

DAIRY farmers across Shropshire and Mid Wales have been urged to "stand up and unite" by the leader of the Farmers For Action group.

David Handley, the chairman of FFA, said protests outside Morrisons and Asda in the county last week, including a protest in Oswestry, proved dairy farmers would not be "bullied" by supermarkets.

He said: "Following a meeting with Morrisons on the milk crisis, we have had a reply back saying Morrisons are not prepared to negotiate anything whilst being targeted by farmers."

"I think a line has been drawn in the sand and am sure I speak on behalf of the majority of farmers when I say we are not going to be bullied by British retailers. All we want is a fair price, a living wage and be able to make a profit from our business, no different than any other corporate business, whether it be British retailing or British food service industry. We as farmers need to stand together like we have never done before, we need to forget any past differences and deliver the strongest message ever to those who purchase our products and to those who govern our industry and tell them we have had enough."

During the Oswestry protest farmers removed all the milk from the dairy aisle in Morrisons and put it in the water aisle to show that the 89p price for two litres of milk was cheaper than bottled water.

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AS a teenager, Chris Beardshaw was a keen sportsman, running half-marathons for his county, destined to achieve great goals as an athlete.

Suddenly, within the space of 10 days, his feet swelled up so chronically he couldn't walk. The condition spread to his ankles, hands and wrists. His case was a mystery and, after numerous trips to specialists and consultants, he was diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis.

His choice was to undergo major surgery on his toes and lower joints, or face a lifetime in a wheelchair.

This is where his interest in holistic treatments began – he changed his diet, eating fewer vegetables which exacerbated his symptoms, such as aubergines, red peppers and tomatoes, cut out red meat, red wine and dairy products and started investigating the power of herbal remedies.

"I went through four-and-a-half years of being explored," the award-winning garden designer and broadcaster recalls. "I became used to being a curiosity. They were never able to get a full diagnosis on the type of arthritis."

"I had gold injections, radiotherapy, hydrotherapy and tried Voltarol-based products. Some provided short-term gain, but four weeks later the condition would return."

He found that comfrey cream, arnica and devil's claw helped alleviate his symptoms to a degree, but the whole experience made him think more about the healing properties of plants, some of which he now grows in his own garden.

While one in six of us can recognise echinacea, which is used to produce cough and cold remedies, even fewer of us know how to recognise a safe herbal remedy, according to new research from Potter's Herbals. Yet many plants that can help us maintain our wellbeing are so easy to grow and we may already have them in our garden.

Common plants which Chris recommends and uses for his own wellbeing include:

Lemon balm: "It's very easy to grow – once you have it in the garden you'll never get rid of it. It's a herbaceous perennial which grows vigorously and has a hawthorn-like leaf. You harvest the leaf tips from May to mid-summer and make a tea out of it. Tip on boiling water, let it steep for three minutes and when it's cool enough, drink it. It has a citrus zing to it which cleanses the palate and is uplifting. It's also good for improving circulation."

Rosemary and thyme: "Grow them hard, don't overwater or overfeed. Don't grow in a rich garden compost, grow them in a soil-based compost like John Innes No 2 which is less fertile and has a more mineral-rich structure to it. The plants will stay dwarfed but will be more concentrated in their components. Put them in the sun to intensify the oils. Rosemary and thyme can break down fats in the body, they serve as a remedy for bad fats. So if you're eating fatty barbecued meats, take some sprigs, crumble them in your hands and throw them over the meat, not so they burn but so they are warmed."

Black peppermint: "It's the most potent form of mint. Grow it at the back of a herbaceous border and let it run forward. When it starts to invade other plants, rip it out and use the bits you've ripped out in salads or in tea, as a digestive promoter and to alleviate bloating. Or make it into a compress, hold it on the skin and use it on sunburn. Keep it wet. Mint doesn't like to dry out. It will also need feeding."

Lavender: "Lavender is anti-bacterial, so it's good to wash your hands in a tea made of lavender. It's good for fungal infections, if you've hit your finger while gardening and you have bleeding under the fingernail, it will clean the skin and cuticles."

Tansy (Tanacetum – a member of the Aster family): "This produces tiny yellow flowers with 'shaving brush' heads. The leaves are an insect repellent. It will grow to 4-5ft and is very good if you've got pets because at this time of the year there are lots of ticks and fleas about. Harvest the leaves and take a bunch and wipe them down the side of the cat or dog, just behind their ears."

BY HANNAH STEPHENSON



Keep on top of your garden jobs to keep your plants in best condition

Keep on watering baskets while the weather is hot

WHAT TO DO THIS WEEK

1. Water hanging baskets and containers twice a day in extended hot weather
2. Plant out leeks raised from seed once they are the thickness of a pencil
3. Layer honeysuckle, wisteria and passion flower by bending the shoots down to the ground, slitting the stem, dusting with rooting powder and burying the end in the soil, holding it in place with a large stone
4. Water blue hydrangeas regularly with a colourant solution to ensure they remain blue next season
5. Support the new growth of dahlias
6. Sow lettuce weekly to continue the harvest throughout summer
7. Don't let runner beans dry out. As they ripen, pick them regularly to ensure they don't become tough

8. Take rose cuttings
9. Pick courgettes while they are young and before they turn into marrows
10. Order catalogues for next year's spring-flowering bulbs
11. Give woodwork a lick of paint or preservative while the weather's dry
12. Prepare the garden if you're going away, asking family or neighbours to water it for you or install an automatic irrigation system
13. Help revive tired containers and baskets by cutting back all flowering plants and giving them a good feed
14. Divide clumps of bearded iris
15. On balmy nights, leave pond pumps on to maintain oxygen levels
16. Raise the lawnmower cutting height slightly to help the grass resist summer wear and tear

Don't forget the seed capital in your garden

By Ross Underwood

AS gardeners I'm sure that we are all familiar with growing plants from seed, whether it be vegetables for the plate or flowers for the garden. I'm also sure we have all bought seed from garden centres or seed lists. Yet how many of us realise what a potential seed bank exists in our own gardens and how much potential excitement we could be denying ourselves.

Many of the plants we buy at garden centres and nurseries were originally collected as seed either in the wild or often from gardens. Indeed, many of the cultivars we are so familiar with were selected by keen-eyed gardeners from plants growing in their own back gardens. Many famous gardeners have named plants – euphorbia griffithii 'Dixter' was grown by Christopher Lloyd in his garden. But we don't all have to have large gardens or an array of rare or specialist plants.

A lot of early flowering stalwarts are producing seed right now and the keen gardener should take advantage of this domestic bounty.

Capsules

I recently collected seed of the spring flowering lathyrus vernus, a perennial member of the pea family. The seed capsules were just beginning to split open to reveal the small round seeds within. Like many members of the pea family the seeds need chitting.

Some older books recommend nicking the seed with a knife although I find that soaking in water for 24-48 hours works just as well.

Seeds of garden hellebores are also ripening now. Collect the seed when the seed case has become ripe and brittle and before it has ruptured, scattering the seed. It is always tempting to wait until you see the capsules splitting but frequently that is too late.

I have often said to myself that I will collect seed the next day only to find that when I get round to it I am too late.

Another plant to watch out for are geraniums, especially as they have an explosive method of shedding their seed. Early performers such as g. phaeum will be fading now and the seed capsules will have formed beginning with the lowest spent flower. Early spurges such as euphorbia palustris will be ripening seed now.

Euphorbias also fling their seed far and wide. It is often best to take the whole stem just prior to the seed being shed and letting it ripen in an airy place in a paper bag or tie a paper or muslin bag over the seed head to catch the seed as they are shed.

Seed can of course be stored in envelopes in a cool dark place as long as it is kept dry or in the salad compartment of the fridge.



Gardeners are missing out on a great bounty if they don't cultivate seeds from their own gardens



Ensure you don't leave it too late before collecting seed from its case

Personally I find these methods tend to reduce the viability of some seeds thus reducing the yield. I prefer to sow my seed as freshly as possible.

I see no sense in building up a cupboard full of envelopes of seed and then having to sow it all in the spring when I could have sown it fresh and got it sated.

Hellebores are always best sown fresh. The seeds are big enough to handle individually so I sow them in six pack trays that once contained bedding or else in a crate. Multi-purpose compost is fine and if you recycle your old bedding trays as I do then

by the time the resulting plants are ready for the garden you will have a handy plug-sized plant.

The main thing is to protect the seeds from marauding mice. It is also a good idea to put a thin layer of gravel on the tray to prevent the growth of mosses and liverworts on the compost.

Colours

It would be appropriate to say something about selection here and hellebores are a good example. They are naturally randy plants and breed readily.



Euphorbia 'Dixter' is a small and neat plant

Unless only one variety is grown the resulting seedlings will turn out to be a mixture of colours, many of them rather muddy.

The excitement comes from trialling the resulting seedlings in the garden.

By continually selecting the best plants from the crop and ensuring they also breed with the best we can all develop our own seed strains.

I have found collecting my own seed and raising it to be one of the most rewarding activities, so why not collect your own for free?

↑ Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING



Georgian town house retains period features

Talbot House is an attractive Grade II-listed Georgian town house in the centre of Ellesmere.

With accommodation over three floors it has a variety of period features such as wooden floors and fireplaces.

It is for sale through Balfours at £350,000.

The entrance hall has a beautiful staircase and stone flooring. The kitchen leads to the

dining room and boot room/ back hall. The sitting room is well-proportioned and has an open fire, wooden floors and a large sash window. The dining room has parquet flooring and links to the kitchen which has fitted units. On the ground floor there is also a utility and store room.

On the first floor, there is the large master bedroom which has a period fireplace, a fur-

ther bedroom and the family bathroom. On the second floor there are three bedrooms. Outside, but attached to the house, are some outhouses which are currently used as a utility and a log store. There is a driveway providing parking and a garage. The garden is laid to lawn. For further information contact Balfours on 01743 353511 or visit www.balfours.co.uk



Property comes with a range of buildings and pastureland

A 77.19 acre residential stock farm comprising a four bedroom farmhouse with a range of farm buildings and pastureland is on the market with Halls.

Grove Farm, Maesbrook, Oswestry is situated in a private, peaceful position between the villages of Maesbrook and Melverley. The farm is available as a whole or divided and price is on application to Halls. The land surrounds the farmstead and is divided into conveniently sized enclosures. Contact Halls on 01743 450700.



Town's landmark building is up for sale for £750,000

A building which housed the world's first mail order business, serving royalty, Florence Nightingale, and diplomats across the world, has been put up for sale.

The Royal Welsh Warehouse in Newtown, a landmark building which was built by entrepreneur and former Montgomeryshire MP, Sir Pryce Pryce-Jones, has been put on the market for £750,000 plus VAT. Kathryn Davies, chartered surveyor at estate agents Morris, Marshall and Poole, who are acting on the sale, said the historic building would provide an excellent investment opportunity.



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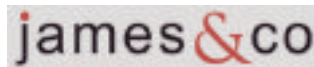
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Substantial farmhouse has annexe

The sale of Severnside at Llandrinio offers prospective purchasers a rare opportunity to acquire a substantial and adaptable home. The home is for sale for £450,000 through Halls. The property comprises the main farmhouse with four reception rooms, kitchen, utility and two ground floor bedrooms, one en-suite.

On the first floor and taking advantage of the views is a feature living room, as well as a large landing area ideal for work stations, two double bedrooms and a family bathroom.

To the rear of the property is a two bedroom annexe. Contact Halls on 01938 555552 for more details.



Four bedroom property has period features

This is a rare opportunity to purchase a spacious four bedroom semi-detached property. Greystones Court on Shrewsbury Road is situated on the fringe of the popular market town of Oswestry. The property has period features throughout and offers flexible living accommodation including large entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, dining room, cloakroom, boiler room, cellar, four large bedrooms and family bathroom. Externally the property is approached over a gravelled driveway leading to private gardens, patio and ample off road parking. Offers in the region of £279,500. Contact Bowen Son and Watson on 01691 652367.



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Oswald Close Oswestry £274,995

- An immaculately presented and ideally located detached property
- Occupying a private position within a small development of similar properties
- Living room, Sitting room, dining room, Kitchen, Utility, Cloaks
- Master bed with en-suite, Bed 2 with en-suite, 3 further beds & Family bathroom
- There are good sized gardens to rear while the Brynhafof playing fields are also nearby
- Gas C/H, hardwood double glazing and driveway to the front. EPC rating C



Liwyn Road Oswestry £114,995

- A deceptively spacious and well presented 2 Bedroom Mid Terrace Property
- Open plan Lounge/Dining Room, Kitchen
- 2 first floor Bedrooms and Family bathroom
- Excellent rear garden. Utility/Storage Room separate garden with shed
- uPVC double glazing, Gas C/H and a damp proof course.



Overton Road St Martins £239,950

- An immaculately presented 4 Double Bedroom Detached Family Home
- The property was constructed in 2000
- Reception Hall, Cloaks, Kitchen Diner, Utility Room, Lounge,
- Large Master Bedroom (en-suite) 3 further double bedrooms & Family Bathroom
- Ample off road parking for at least 4 cars,
- Large garage, private courtyard style gardens to the front and rear
- Gas central heating and uPVC double glazing. EPC Rating C



Lutton Close Oswestry £225,000

- A most impressive and high specification 4 Bedroom Townhouse
- Offering spacious and flexible accommodation. Constructed in 2007
- Wide Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Large Sitting/Dining Room
- Feature Kitchen with integrated appliances and granite working surfaces
- Study, 4 Excellent Bedrooms, En-Suite, Shower Room and Family Bathroom
- D/G, Gas C/H, alarm system, integral garage
- Ample parking to the fore and views to the rear. EPC Rating C



Shrewsbury Road Oswestry £279,500

- A spacious 4 bedroom Semi-Detached Property
- Having period features throughout. Large Entrance Hall, Lounge
- Kitchen, Dining Room, Cloakroom, Boiler Room, Cellar
- 4 large Bedrooms and Family Bathroom
- Approached over a gravelled driveway leading to private gardens, patio
- Ample off road parking. Gas fired central heating. EPC Rating D



High Fawr Avenue Oswestry £359,995

- An executive detached family home situated within a large corner plot
- Entrance Porch, Large Entrance Hall, Lounge with Conservatory off
- Dining Room, Study, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility, Cloakroom
- Four Double Beds (Master En-Suite Shower Room) & Luxury Bathroom
- Fully landscaped gardens, small stream & views over open fields
- Patio area and parking & Double garage. Security system
- Double glazing, Gas C/H, cavity wall insulation. EPC Rating D



Holbach Gardens Oswestry £340,000

- A substantial detached 3 storey, 5 bedroom modern property
- Situated close to the heart of Oswestry town centre
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Living/Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility
- Master Bedroom (En-Suite), 4 further Bedrooms and 2 further Bathrooms
- Externally the property benefits from an enclosed rear garden
- Good size drive bounded by brick walls and ornate railings
- Gas central heating and double glazing. EPC Rating C



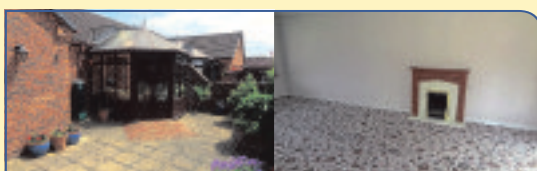
Barber Close Oswestry £175,000

- Well presented & spacious 3/4 Bedroom Townhouse
- Ent Hall, Kitchen/Dining Room, Utility Room
- Cloakroom, Study/Bedroom 4
- On 1st floor, Lounge, Bedrm & Family Bathrm
- 2 further larger Bedrms (master en-suite)
- Private garden, garage & rear parking area
- Gas C/H and D/G. EPC Rating C



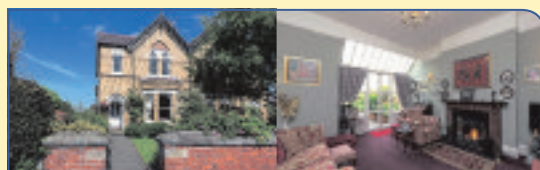
Bradford Terrace Llanymynech £129,950

- Deceptively spacious and fully renovated 4 Bedroom Village Property
- The property has been finished to a high specification
- Inglenook fireplace and exposed beams throughout
- Open plan Lounge/Dining Room, fully fitted Kitchen, Utility
- 4 Bedrooms and Family Bathroom
- Courtyard style garden together with off-road parking
- Oil central heating. EPC Rating E



Meadowbrook Court Gobowen £88,750

- A very comfortable and spacious leasehold bungalow
- Entrance Hall, Double Bedroom, Bathroom/Wet Room
- Living/Dining room, Sun Conservatory and Kitchen with appliances.
- Double glazing, Economy 7 ducted ceiling and under floor electric C/H
- Charming courtyard garden, 24/7 hour audio call system
- Ready for immediate occupation. EPC Rating D



Queen's Road Oswestry £360,000

- A superbly appointed Period Residence set in one of Oswestry's most desirable locations
- The deceptively spacious living accommodation is spread over 3 floors
- Entrance Hall, Cloaks, Lounge, Living Room, Dining Room
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room and Rear Hallway, Shower room
- The Cellars have been converted into spacious Guest Suite with En-Suite Shower Rm
- 4 further Bedrooms (1 with En-Suite Shower Rm), Study & Family Bathrm
- Front & rear gardens, single garage & off-road parking. Gas C/H. EPC Rating F



Breidden Close Oswestry £184,995

- A spacious 3 Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Entrance Hall, Lounge/Dining Room, Kitchen
- Cloakroom, 3 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Enclosed rear garden together with driveway
- Off-road parking, carport and detached garage
- Lawned garden to the front of the property
- Gas C/H and double glazing. EPC Rating

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Secluded country residence | total 7 beds | two adjacent dwellings | just under 9 acres | farmhouse-style AGA kitchen | extensive, versatile accommodation | far-reaching outlooks | variety of outbuildings | 4 monarch-style stables in American barn | charming gardens | suitable for bed and breakfast, holiday let, or commercial use (subject to planning) | EPC - D

Burlton, Nr Shrewsbury

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Single storey barn | permitted development rights for conversion to 3 bedroom dwelling | brick construction | previously used for agricultural purposes | access via private track | total area extends to 1.19 acres | fantastic opportunity to develop a lovely family home |

Chetwynd Aston, Nr Newport

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Duke of Sutherland style detached property | 4 beds | spacious, versatile reception rooms | exceptional equestrian facilities | bespoke stable complex | 4 stables | feed room | tack room | wash box | floodlit manège | paddocks | heated swimming pool | sauna | ample parking | total approx. 5.3 acres | tranquil, private and secluded location | stunning views | EPC - F

01630 692500

info@barbers-rural.co.uk





Home has enviable views

Number 1 Perry Bank, Upper Hengoe near Oswestry is a five bedroomed detached house with enviable countryside views.

It is for sale through Woodhead Estates with offers in the region of £289,950 and there is no chain.

It has a porch, an entrance hall, a living room and French doors to the garden.

The property also has a dining room, a kitchen and French doors out to the rear garden.

There is also a utility room, bedroom five/study, a WC, a master bedroom with countryside views and an en suite, three further bedrooms and a bathroom.

For further information contact Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044 or visit www.woodheadestates.com



Property sits on edge of village

Rectory Coach House and Cottage in Threadneedle Street, West Felton includes a four-bedroom converted coach house.

The property also includes a self-contained detached two-bedroomed stone cottage.

It is for sale through Halls Estate Agents at £645,000.

Having a recently built triple garage and front and rear gardens the main building is set around an attractive cobbled courtyard. The property, which is full of character, is situated in a quiet and mature area on the edge of the village of West Felton. For further information contact Halls Estate Agents on 01691 670320 or visit www.hallsgb.com

West Felton is a popular residential village situated some four miles from the market town of Oswestry. The village enjoys a shop, post office, primary school, public house, church and village hall all which go to serve the village's day to day needs.





CONTACT THE CHRONICLE ON 01691 668094



Manon Lewis from Dolanog arrives at the National Eisteddfod



Mari Lisa won the Daniel Owen Memorial Prize for her novel



There were plenty of comings and goings at the famous event



Luna Traynier and Lucas Harley-Edwards, from Aberystwyth, with a gorilla by the British Ironwork Centre, Oswestry

Eisteddfod is a big attraction

THIS year's National Eisteddfod, held at Meifod near Welshpool, has been hailed a huge success.

People from around the country flocked to the week-long cultural event, which came to a close on Saturday.

Among the many visitors was Welsh First Minister Carwyn Jones and The One Show presenter Alex Jones who was honoured for her promotion of Welsh culture.

Economic experts say the National Eisteddfod will have pumped between £6 million to £8 million into the area's economy.

Mel Williams from Llanuwchllyn was awarded the Science and Technology Medal for his life-long contribution to science through the medium of Welsh.

A teacher until his retirement, Mr Williams is also a prolific writer, and chaired the Eisteddfod's own science committee when the festival visited the Montgomeryshire area in 1981.

Osiann Huw Williams, lead singer of the band Candelas, won this year's Musicians' Medal.

A former Montgomeryshire woman was named the winner of one of the top awards at the National Eisteddfod.

Report by Pam Kingsley

Mari Lisa's novel, *Veritas*, is a Dan Brown type thriller which takes readers on an adventure across Wales and through time.

Writing under the name of Abernodyn, Mari Lisa is the winner of this year's Daniel Owen Memorial Prize, a memorial medal and £5,000 for her unpublished novel of no less than 50,000 words.

Originally from Llanwrin in Montgomeryshire, Mari Lisa lives in Carmarthen and works as a translator for the National Assembly for Wales in Cardiff Bay.

A new Welsh-language novel about the drowning of a Mid Wales village was launched at the Eisteddfod by author Eiddwen Jones.

Cofiwch Llanwddyn – which translates in English as "Remember Llanwddyn" – is a historical novel set at the end of the 19th century when the Vyrnwy Valley in Montgomeryshire was flooded to provide clean water for the city of Liverpool.

A huge draw for families at the National Eisteddfod was a collection of sculpture gorillas, made by the British Ironwork Centre at Aston near Oswestry.



Audience members joined in with a lot of the entertainment



Llio Meirion from Ruthin singing on stage



Audiences lapped up the entertainment at the Eisteddfod

Awards to honour community heroes

PEOPLE in Shropshire are being encouraged to nominate locals who deserve special recognition for their work in the community.

The West Mercia Awards have been set up by Bill Longmore, police and crime commissioner for West Mercia, to recognise people who go the extra mile to ensure their communities are safe, healthy and happy places.

Awards will be given to people and groups whose work helps reduce crime and make communities safer, whether that's someone running sports teams, working with young people, helping vulnerable adults or bringing neighbourhoods together.

Mr Longmore said: "In the last 20 years I have seen dramatic changes in societies, some where we need to look at what our values really stand for today. I want these awards to encourage and show appreciation of the people who have shown leadership in their communities or inspired change to benefit others."

For a nomination form visit www.westmercia-pcc.gov.uk

Outdoor play in castle grounds

MONTGOMERY Castle will host a production of Shakespeare's battle-of-the-sexes comedy Taming of the Shrew. The performance takes place in the castle grounds tonight (Thursday) 7pm on August 13.

The play is being organised by Montgomery Town Council.

Organiser, Councillor Mike Mills said: "I am thrilled to be involved with this project. Hopefully people will come along with their picnics and enjoy a superb night of outdoor theatre."

Tickets are available on 01686 668442.

College bosses issue warning on funding

Report by Sue Austin

A TOP specialist Shropshire college is facing an uncertain future because local authorities are refusing to fund students.

Derwen College near Oswestry has seen student number drop as councils tighten the financial reins and earlier this year it was forced to made redundancies among staff.

Bosses at the college say students with learning disabilities should have the same right as others to go to their equivalent of university.

The college was put under the national spotlight last week in a BBC documentary, Life Begins Now, which looked at the lives of six students, including two from Mid Wales, as they came to the end of their three years at Derwen.

Deputy principal, Andrew Harris, said the programme had been very well received. "We have had so many positive comments," he said.

But Mr Harris said 'Life Begins Now' gave only a small glimpse into education at the college.

"We have been scored as outstanding in our last two Ofsted inspections, yet we are struggling to persuade local authorities, including Shropshire, to fund students."

"We have 250 students and once had a long waiting list of young people wanting to study with us. But that is a luxury we no longer have."

"We go to an awful lot of school and college fairs to market ourselves and a lot of student and parents are very impressed."

But families have a real battle on their hands to ensure they can access the college that they want, he said.

Make it a short back and pies, please



David Passmore from The Little Pie Shop and Mervin Annetts from Sweeney Todd barbers

THEY get on famously, but have assured customers their working relationship is all above board.

David Passmore runs the Little Pie Shop - next door to Sweeney Todd barbers.

The neighbouring shop fronts have caused quite a stir in Oswestry where they are based.

And now David has popped a reassuring notice in the window saying although he gets on famously with his retailing neighbour, he doesn't buy meat from him.

The Little Pie Shop on aptly named, Leg Street, Oswestry, has been opened by the retired restaurateur, who bakes his sweet and

savoury delights in front of the customers. Both he and barber Mervin Annetts noticed the irony of the shops standing side by side immediately. Mr Annetts said many customers had commented about the pie shop opening next door. "I reassure them that they have nothing to worry about," he said.

Fears over care for the elderly after shake-up

WORRIES about the care of older people in the Chirk area after the reorganisation of social care in the Wrexham County Borough area have been voiced at a meeting of the town council.

Councillor Frank Hemmings, who expressed his fears, said a community agent could provide a voice for vulnerable people in Chirk.

Councillor Hemmings said that a number of community councils in the Wrexham Borough Council area have such a post. The role involves visiting older people to ensure they are getting the help they need.

"These people are not carers - they are available to talk to the elderly and make sure that they are their voice," he said.

"I am worried about the standard of care of the elderly since Wrexham council switched care providers and no longer use local companies."

"I would like to see a community agent, funded by Welsh government money, who would answer to Chirk Town Council."

Council clerk Sam Hughes said that five areas of the county borough were chosen as pilot areas for community agents.

"At the time the town council decided to see how those pilots worked before looking at the scheme," he said.

At the meeting, it emerged that Chirk could soon have a life-saving defibrillator in the centre of the town.

Councillor Deryn Poppitt said he had applied to the British Heart Foundation for a HeartStart machine to be placed at the Spar Store in the main street of Chirk. He said if the application was successful, the British Heart Foundation would also supply an education pack for the community.

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Soldier's story sets the scene for new artwork

I WAS recently given the chance to take on an extraordinary wildlife art commission. To paint it was an honour but there was far more to it than a single artwork.

To set the scene, Corporal Kim Dodwell was a Bren gunner in the 6th Airborne Division during the Normandy Campaign of WWII.

It was 11.30pm on June 5. The Armstrong Whitworth Albemarle flew noisily over the channel, an eerie moonlight only occasionally illuminated her frame. The clouds were thick, the winds strong and the sea below rough. Nonetheless the Allied meteorologists had just delivered the most important weather forecast in history, correctly.

The initial hours of June 6 were to be stormy, but the late morning would be more settled. To get the forecast wrong could have cost the Allies tens of thousands of men on that day and World War II may well have been lost forever. Group Captain James Stagg, Operation Overlord's chief meteorological officer had urged a last-minute delay on June 4 because of gale force winds and volatile seas. General Eisenhower agreed to postpone D-Day by 24 hours, but now it was on.

But for the Allies it was now or never: the window of three days needed for a full moon to illuminate obstacles and landing places for gliders and for a low tide at dawn to expose the elaborate underwater defences was nearly over.

The French coast came in to view, the plane dropped to less than a thousand feet, the racket was deafening and the vibrations

ON THE WILDSIDE

with Ben Waddams



of the aircraft intense. Then jump door was opened and the green jump light was lit.

Following his D-Day landing came two months of shelling, shooting and occasional firefights and Kim and the company dug in around Sallenelles on the estuary of the River Orne.

Almost invisible, Kim and his 'second' on the Bren gun, Corporal Geoffrey Fairhurst, skulked in a slit trench below the reeds and marrams of the sea wall. They were, by then, experienced as 'not to learn was not to live'.

At this moment in time, exactly 71 years ago, the company were at the extreme eastern-most sector on 6th Airborne's positions on the right flank of the British Army in Normandy, occupying erstwhile German defences. In front of them were belts of barbed wire and extensive minefields. Nobody went there and the obstacles had become a haven for wildlife.

Highlights in Kim's diary and letters home recorded butterflies, big swallow tails, fast-flying fritillaries and splendid white admirals. On another occasion a muskrat paid them a visit by night. It proceeded to fall into the trench and could not get out. Kim confirms they taste a bit like rabbit.

The German anti-invasion measures included flooding the surrounding fields. Once a farm boy on the north Shropshire Weald



Ben Waddams shows the finished piece of art to Kim Dodwell

Moors, the fields and flats around the estuary held curlews whose music took Kim back to his childhood whilst other species of shore birds transported him in return to happy holidays on the Welsh coast. But the star of the show was a big dark raptor, which kept quartering the barbed wire belt – by now full of small rodents. He knew

enough to tell it must be a harrier, but which? An urgent letter home and the answer came back – it had to be a male marsh harrier.

Kim and I decided to call the painting An Interlude in War. For Kim, natural history was a constant source of great pleasure even in the most adverse conditions.

Harvest season sparks safety advice to drivers

FARMERS and motorists in Shropshire and Mid Wales have been urged to stay safe on the roads as harvest season gets under way.

Dyfed-Powys and West Mercia Police have warned farmers to be considerate of other road users at a time when more agricultural vehicles were in use.

Drivers have also been warned to be more patient with the farmers and to not take any risks with overtaking.

Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner Christopher Salmon, who grew up on a farm near Presteigne, said: "A number of people have raised concerns about agricultural vehicles with me recently."

"I want to ensure that farmers get their silage in and that the public can be safe. It's a frantic time of year for many of those in agriculture, they've got to get silage in. I know what it's like – I've been there myself."

"The weather doesn't always help and late nights, heavy loads and massive tractors put pressure on small roads."

"My message to farmers and contractors is: keep the public on your side. My message to the public is: be patient."

He added: "Farmers and contractors do their best to consider their neighbours. But, as agricultural equipment gets bigger and the pressures increase, it's important to take extra care at this busy time – to keep the public behind local farms."

"That way, I hope farmers can make the most of the weather and have a successful, accident-free, harvest."

"Local people support our farmers, particularly when the pressure's on."

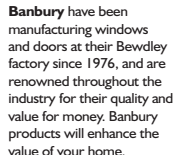
West Mercia Police and the Safer Roads Partnership added that it was a busy time of year for farmers moving their produce. In previous years, the partnership said there have been issues reported including a likelihood of increased mud and debris on the roads.

Superintendent Charles Hill, from West Mercia Police, said: "Mud on the road is a real danger on rural roads and can cause collisions. We are seeking to educate farmers about the dangers of leaving mud on the roads and inform all road users that we will prosecute anyone found responsible." Vicki Bristow, communications manager at the Safer Roads Partnership added: "General motorists need to ensure that extra care and patience should be taken during this time of year and they should be aware that there is a necessity for more agricultural vehicles to be on the roads and not to chance risky manoeuvres."

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Match of the Day 10.20pm

Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Southampton v Everton at St Mary's Stadium, Tottenham Hotspur v Stoke City at White Hart Lane. Plus, highlights of Sunderland v Norwich City, Swansea City v Newcastle United and Watford v West Bromwich Albion.



The White Countess 10.40pm

A relationship develops between a blind former American diplomat and a Russian countess in exile, who meet in a sleazy nightclub in late 1930s Shanghai as China teeters on the brink of the Japanese invasion. Period romantic drama, starring Ralph Fiennes and Natasha Richardson.



Catchphrase 5.15pm

Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show, asking three contestants to 'see it and say it' as they try to guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues. After the first elimination, the two remaining players battle to reach the Super Catchphrase round, where one of them could win £50,000.



Great Canal Journeys 7pm

New series. Veteran actors and married couple Timothy West and Prunella Scales celebrate their 50th anniversary with four adventures around the canal networks of Britain and France. In the first edition, the pair head to the West Country to travel along the fully restored Kennet and Avon Canal.



Football League Tonight 9pm

Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the latest games, including Milton Keynes Dons v Preston North End and Queens Park Rangers v Cardiff City in the Championship, as well as all the goals from League One and League Two. Plus, a round-up of the main talking points.

BBC1

- 6.00** **Breakfast.** News, sport and entertainment reports.
- 9.00** **Saturday Kitchen Live.** James Martin is joined by chefs Cyrus Todiwala and Tony Singh for the cookery show, which also features BBC archive highlights and wine choices by expert Susie Barrie.
- 10.30** **VJ Day 70: The Nation Remembers.** Kirsty Young introduces coverage of a day commemorating the end of the Second World War, beginning with a service of remembrance from St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square.
- 12.15** **Football Focus.** Dan Walker and guests review the week's action and look ahead to forthcoming fixtures, which include Manchester City v Chelsea at the Etihad Stadium on Sunday.
- 1.00** **VJ Day 70: The Nation Remembers.** Further live coverage of the 70th anniversary of VJ Day, including a special commemorative event on Horse Guards Parade led by the Prince of Wales.
- 3.30** **Escape to the Country.** Nicki Chapman travels around Somerset to help a couple decide on a property that will provide enough land for their horses and fall within their £600,000 budget. (R)
- 4.00** **Final Score.** Jason Mohammad presents a round-up of this afternoon's results from the Premier League, Football League and Scotland.
- 5.15** **Pointless Celebrities.** A sitcom special of the quiz show, featuring Vicki Michelle, Ian Lavender, Simon Day, Arabella Weir, Meera Syal, Phil Cornwell, Ewen Macintosh and Simon Greenall. (R)
- 6.00** **BBC News.**
- 6.10** **Midlands Today; Weather.**
- 6.15** **FILM: Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (1989).** The intrepid archaeologist sets out to find his father, who has gone missing while searching for the Holy Grail. Action adventure sequel, starring Harrison Ford and Sean Connery.
- 8.15** **The National Lottery: Five Star Family Reunion.** A UK family and their long-lost overseas relatives must work together and answer questions to win a once-in-a-lifetime reunion in a five-star location. Includes the weekend draw.
- 9.10** **Casualty.** Connie gives Dylan one day to prove he is fit enough to carry out his medical duties, while Sam introduces Tess to her first grandchild.
- 10.00** **BBC News; Weather.**
- 10.20** **Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Southampton v Everton at St Mary's Stadium and Tottenham Hotspur v Stoke City at White Hart Lane; **National Lottery Update.**
- 11.40** **Rugby Union.** England v France. John Inverdale introduces highlights of the Test match at Twickenham, as the sides continued their preparations for next month's World Cup.
- 12.40** **Weather for the Week Ahead.**
- 12.45** **BBC News.**

BBC2

- 7.25** **FILM: San Demetrio, London (1943).** Fact-based Second World War drama, starring Walter Fitzgerald.
- 9.00** **More Creatures Great and Small. (R)**
- 9.30** **More Creatures Great and Small. (R)** A cow struggles to give birth to twins. (R)
- 10.00** **The Women's Football Show.** A look at the biggest issues in the women's game.
- 10.30** **Great British Menu. (R)**
- 11.00** **Alex Polizzi: Chefs on Trial.** The final challenge is to produce a three-course menu at the restaurant. Last in the series. (R)
- 11.30** **Alex Polizzi: Chefs on Trial.** The final challenge is to produce a three-course menu at the restaurant. Last in the series. (R)
- 12.30** **Omar Sharif: Talking Pictures.** Looking back at the actor's life.
- 1.00** **FILM: Funny Girl (1968).** Musical biopic of 1920s singer and comedienne Fanny Brice. Starring an Oscar-winning Barbra Streisand, alongside Omar Sharif.
- 3.25** **FILM: Hidalgo (2004).** A pony express rider enters in a 3,000-mile horse race across the Arabian desert, only to be drawn into political conflict. Period adventure, with Viggo Mortensen and Omar Sharif.
- 5.30** **Atlantic: The Wildest Ocean on Earth.** Dolphin pods and penguin colonies in the South Atlantic. (R)
- 6.30** **Gardeners' World.** Monty Don seeks help for his box hedges, which are still riddled with blight, and sets about growing mushrooms. Meanwhile, Rachel de Thame visits Highclere Castle in Berkshire. (R)
- 7.00** **Proms Extra.** Katie Derham is joined by maestro Juanjo Mena to review Nicola Benedetti's performance of the Korngold Concerto, Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue, and two Pastoral Symphonies.
- 7.40** **Edwardian Farm.** The team heads to Dartmoor to explore how shepherds took advantage of the landscape. Alex Langlands and Peter Ginn get to grips with shearing, while Ruth Goodman visits a wool mill. (R)
- 8.40** **Dad's Army.** The men of Walmington-on-Sea's Home Guard use up all their ammunition shooting at a passing aircraft, so Captain Mainwaring has to hold a court of inquiry. (R)
- 9.10** **VE Day: Remembering Victory.** Famous names including David Attenborough, Bruce Forsyth, Miriam Margolyes and June Whitfield share their memories of May 8, 1945, when it was announced the war in Europe was over. (R)
- 10.40** **FILM: The White Countess (2005).** A relationship develops between a blind former American diplomat and a Russian refugee in 1930s Shanghai. Period romantic drama, with Ralph Fiennes and Natasha Richardson.
- 12.45** **Dancing Through the Blitz: Blackpool's Big Band Story.** To commemorate the 70th anniversary of VE Day, Joels Holland, Lucy Worsley and Len Goodman celebrate the big band sound that saw Britain through the Second World War. (R)
- 2.15** **This Is BBC2.** Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC2.

ITV

- 6.00** **CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! 6.25** Pat & Stan **6.35** Dino Dan **6.45** Dino Dan **7.00** Animals **7.15** Sooty **7.30** Super **4.7.45** Fish Hooks **8.00** Young Justice: Invasion
- 8.25** **ITV News.**
- 8.30** **Weekend.** With Joe McDelderry, Anton Du Beke and Alex Horne.
- 9.25** **Murder, She Wrote.** A private eye is murdered. (R)
- 10.20** **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)
- 11.20** **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** The host invites guests to air their differences over family and relationship issues. (R)
- 12.25** **ITV News and Weather; Weather.**
- 12.35** **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)
- 1.35** **Tipping Point.** Quiz show, hosted by Ben Shephard. (R)
- 2.35** **Celebrity Squares.** Warwick Davis hosts the game show, with guests Paddy McGuinness, Louis Smith, Anna Crilly and Katy Wix, Alison Hammond, Rob Beckett, Michelle Keegan and Gino D'Acampo. (R)
- 3.20** **Midsomer Murders.** Barnaby and Scott investigate when a man's body is found in the river during the Midsomer Regatta - and discover the victim had a number of enemies at the rowing club. (R)
- 5.15** **Catchphrase.** Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show in which three contestants guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clips, before one of them plays to win £50,000. (R)
- 6.00** **ITV News Central; Weather.**
- 6.15** **ITV News and Weather.**
- 6.30** **You've Been Framed!** Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of viewers' videos, featuring a cat terrorising a postman and an accident at the top of the Eiffel Tower, as well as elaborate pranks. (R)
- 7.00** **Keep It in the Family.** Six Emmerdale stars face the drop as two families from London and Bolton decide whether to swap a prize, drop it or keep it in the family. Bradley Walsh hosts.
- 8.00** **The Saturday Night Story.** Part one of two. Celebrating best-loved and most watched moments from Saturday night TV, including the evolution of dancing and the hidden camera phenomenon.
- 9.00** **FILM: The Bourne Supremacy (2004).** The amnesiac assassin is framed for a botched CIA operation and faces a fight for survival as he tries to uncover his past. Action thriller sequel, with Matt Damon and Brian Cox.
- 11.00** **ITV News and Weather; Weather.**
- 11.20** **The Chase.** Bradley Walsh presents as four contestants answer general knowledge questions and work as a team to take on ruthless quiz genius the Chaser and secure a cash prize. (R)
- 12.15** **Jackpot247.** Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
- 3.00** **Ejector Seat.** Quiz show, hosted by Andi Peters. (R)
- 3.50** **ITV Nightscreen.**

Channel 4

- 6.10** **How I Met Your Mother. (R)**
- 6.35** **The Grid.**
- 7.00** **London Triathlon.** Action from the recent event that saw professionals and amateurs in competition.
- 8.00** **The Morning Line.** Rishi Persad presents a look ahead to this afternoon's racing at Newbury.
- 9.00** **Frasier.** Daphne's boyfriend dumps her. (R)
- 9.30** **Frasier.** Lilith and Frasier meet again. (R)
- 10.00** **The Big Bang Theory.** Howard awaits the shuttle launch. (R)
- 10.30** **The Big Bang Theory.** Sheldon is delighted Leonard's girlfriend matches his high standards. (R)
- 11.00** **The Big Bang Theory. (R)**
- 11.25** **The Simpsons.** Homer is hired to climb a mountain. (R)
- 11.55** **The Simpsons. (R)**
- 12.25** **The Simpsons.** Homer and Marge reignite their love life. (R)
- 12.55** **Rude(ish) Tube.** Amusing internet videos, featuring a supposed UFO sighting.
- 1.25** **Channel 4 Racing.** Live coverage from Newbury, Newmarket and Ripon.
- 4.15** **Come Dine with Me.** The competition heads to Manchester. (R)
- 4.45** **Come Dine with Me.** Trainee barrister Sasha hosts the second night in Manchester. (R)
- 5.15** **Come Dine with Me.** Nurse Katherine hosts the third dinner party in Manchester. (R)
- 5.45** **Come Dine with Me.** Barber Danny hosts the fourth night of the competition in Manchester. (R)
- 6.10** **Come Dine with Me.** It is the final night in Manchester and glamorous goth Maria is serving her twist on Asian cuisine, which manages to impress daddy's girl Sasha. (R)
- 6.40** **Channel 4 News.**
- 7.00** **Great Canal Journeys.** New series. Veteran actors and married couple Timothy West and Prunella Scales celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with trips around the canal networks of Britain and France.
- 8.00** **Walking Through History.** Tony Robinson hikes up from Lyme Regis in Dorset to the Somerset Levels telling the story of the 1685 Monmouth Rebellion, an attempt to overthrow James II. Last in the series. (R)
- 9.00** **FILM: Red (2010).** A retired CIA agent survives an assassination attempt, and reunites his old hit squad to find out who wants them dead. Action thriller, starring Bruce Willis and Morgan Freeman.
- 11.10** **FILM: Repo Men (2010).** A man employed to repossess artificial organs questions his career when he needs a mechanical heart he cannot pay for. Sci-fi thriller, with Jude Law and Forest Whitaker.
- 1.15** **The Last Leg. (R)**
- 2.15** **Hollyoaks. (R)**
- 4.15** **Kirstie's Vintage Gems.**
- 4.20** **Double Your House for Half the Money. (R)**
- 5.25** **Fifteen to One. (R)**

Channel 5

- 6.00** **Milkshake!:** Peppa Pig **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas **6.20** Angelina Ballerina **6.30** Pip Ahoy! **6.45** The Mr Men Show **6.55** Chloe's Closet **7.05** Milkshake! Monkey **7.15** Make Way for Noddy **7.25** Paw Patrol **7.45** Little Princess **8.00** Wanda and the Alien **8.15** Zack and Quack **8.30** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom **8.45** Jelly Jamm **9.05** LazyTown **9.30** Dora and Friends
- 10.00** **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.** Part one of two. Kraang launches a devastating attack on New York City. (R)
- 10.35** **Cowboy Builders.** The team tackles an extension in Potters Bar, Hertfordshire. (R)
- 11.30** **Cowboy Builders.** The team seeks to repair a bungalow in Bradford. (R)
- 12.30** **Cowboy Builders.** Dominic Littlewood revisits a Harrow couple he helped in 2010. (R)
- 1.25** **FILM: North Sea Hijack (1979).** Thriller, starring Roger Moore.
- 3.20** **FILM: The Dirty Dozen (1967).** Second World War action adventure, with Lee Marvin.
- 6.10** **Sinkholes: Buried Alive.** The underlying forces behind sinkholes, which can occur gradually - when the surface subsides into bowl-shaped depressions - or suddenly, when the ground gives away. (R)
- 7.00** **The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door.** A man in Cumbria takes issue with his neighbour's free-roaming menagerie of birds, and a pair of horse-breeders in North Wales clash with the owners of a yurt business. (R)
- 7.55** **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** Sheriff Paul Bohill tackles the case of a small debt owed by ex-footballer Neil Ruddock to a kennel owner, before being forced to visit a school dinner lady in south London. (R)
- 8.55** **5 News Weekend.**
- 9.00** **Football League Tonight.** Kelly Cates and George Riley present highlights of the latest games, including Milton Keynes Dons v Preston North End and Queens Park Rangers v Cardiff City in the Championship.
- 10.25** **Rob Brydon Live.** A stand-up show recorded at Norwich's Theatre Royal during the comedian and actor's first UK tour in 2009, featuring comic tales, impressions, songs and anecdotes. (R)
- 11.20** **The Great British Benefits Hotel.** Documentary revealing how hotels are increasingly being used to help ease the housing crisis, with a wide variety of guests filling their spare beds. (R)
- 12.15** **SuperCasino.** Live interactive gaming.
- 3.10** **Transporter: The Series.** Frank finds himself pursued by machete-wielding mercenaries.
- 4.00** **Police Interceptors Unleashed with Vinnie Jones.** A car thief rewrites the rules of the road. (R)
- 4.50** **Make It Big.** Concern arises over one of the office fish. (R)
- 5.15** **Make It Big.** The group searches for a venue. (R)
- 5.45** **Angels of Jarm.** The children worry about singing in class. (R)
- 5.50** **Angels of Jarm. (R)**

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Countryfile
7pm
Joe Crowley and Anita Rani report from the Country Land and Business Associations annual game fair at Harewood House, and try their hands at kayak fishing and clay pigeon shooting. Plus, Tom Heap investigates land reform in Scotland and Adam Henson looks at country breeds in Yorkshire.



Dragons' Den
8pm
Deborah Meaden, Peter Jones, Touker Suleyman, Sarah Willingham and Nick Jenkins assess more pitches, including a Liverpool couple's electric tuk tuk and a husband and wife with a range of Korean inspired sauces. However, the pressure proves too much to take for one would-be entrepreneur.



Midsomer Murders
8pm
The organiser of a folk festival is found dead. The murder seems to have been inspired by a ballad made famous by the late, Johnny Carver. Then it comes to light the victim recently announced plans to move the event to a new location, which would have cost local entrepreneur Frank Wainwright dearly.



Experimental
8pm
Tim Shaw and Buddy Munro go to the Caucasus Mountains in Georgia, and try riding down the slopes on a shovel. Tim also builds a football-firing air cannon to recreate an incident where a ball was fired from a coach, and rebounded back to be caught by one of its passengers.



Police Interceptors Unleashed with Vinnie Jones
8pm
Reports of a gun leads to a hotel being locked down while the interceptors get prepared, while thieves crash a stolen car after a chase and are forced to flee on foot. Officers conduct a raid on a house and are confronted by a man in his underpants wielding a crowbar.

BBC1	
6.00	Breakfast.
7.40	Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Southampton v Everton and Tottenham Hotspur v Stoke City. (R)
9.00	BBC News.
10.00	Sunday Morning Live. Stan Williams chairs a topical debate covering religious, moral and ethical issues, with guest panellists and contributions from viewers.
11.00	Homes Under the Hammer. Developers Lucy Alexander and Martin Roberts visit a one-bedroom mid-terrace cottage in Cornwall, a former chapel in Kent, and a two-bedroom mid-terrace in Co Durham. (R)
12.00	Bargain Hunt. Two teams track down collectibles in Anglesey, north Wales. Experts David Harper and David Barby provide advice, while Tim Wonnacott visits Penrhyn Castle in Bangor. (R)
1.00	BBC News: Weather.
1.15	Flog It! Mark Stacey and David Fletcher view antiques in Dorchester. (R)
2.00	Escape to the Country. Two couples look for homes in North Yorkshire. (R)
3.00	Animal Odd Couples. Part two of two. Friendships between animals and humans. (R)
4.00	The Great British Bake Off. The 11 remaining home bakers tackle biscuit week. (R)
5.00	Songs of Praise. A report from the Calais migrant camp.
5.35	Earth's Natural Wonders: Vast Wonders. Part two of two. The world's most inhospitable landscapes. (R)
6.35	BBC News.
6.50	Midlands Today: Weather.
7.00	Countryfile. Joe Crowley and Anita Rani report from the Country Land and Business Associations annual game fair at Harewood House, and try their hands at kayak fishing and clay pigeon shooting. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.
8.00	Fake or Fortune? Fiona Bruce and Philip Mould investigate potentially valuable works of art, helping a man who believes he owns a painting by French post-impressionist Edouard Vuillard. (R)
9.00	Partners in Crime. Part one of three. Tommy is sent on a secret undercover mission to unmask a Russian spy and discover what has become of a nuclear scientist who has gone missing.
10.00	BBC News.
10.20	Midlands Today: Weather.
10.30	Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the day's Premier League action, featuring Crystal Palace v Arsenal at Selhurst Park and Manchester City v Chelsea at Etihad Stadium.
11.30	FILM: New Town Killers (2008). An inner-city teenager agrees to be the prey in a deadly game of cat and mouse played by a banker and his latest recruit. Thriller, starring Dougray Scott and James Anthony Pearson.
1.05	Weather for the Week Ahead.
1.10	BBC News.

BBC2	
6.00	Animal Park. (R)
6.30	The Instant Gardener. (R)
7.15	Countryfile. (R)
8.15	Gardeners' World. (R)
8.45	The Beechgrove Garden.
9.15	Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. Highlights of the series.
10.45	Great British Menu. (R)
11.15	Great British Menu. (R)
11.45	Great British Menu. (R)
12.15	MOTD2 Extra. A look ahead to this afternoon's Premier League fixtures.
1.00	Rugby Union. England v France. (R)
2.00	European Amateur Boxing Championships. Highlights of the event from Sofia, Bulgaria.
2.50	Equestrian. The European Dressage Championships.
4.00	Dancing Through the Blitz: Blackpool's Big Band Story. Celebration of the big band sound that saw Britain through the Second World War. (R)
5.30	VJ Day 70: The Nation Remembers - Highlights. Another chance to see coverage of yesterday's ceremony.
7.00	Burma. My Father and the Forgotten Army. Griffin Rhys Jones visits Ghana and Burma as he explores the stories of the Africans and Asians who fought for the Allies during the Second World War. (R)
8.00	Dragons' Den. The dragons give their opinions on ideas for an electric tuk tuk and a range of Korean inspired sauces - but the pressure proves too much for one would-be entrepreneur.
9.00	Odyssey. Odelle and Aslam are rescued from an awkward situation by Luc, who apparently has his own reasons for keeping Frank Majors alive. Back in New York, Sophia works with Peter.
9.45	Country Strife: Abz on the Farm. New series. Former boy band member Abz Love and his girlfriend Vicky Fallon try to start their own smallholding in Wales, despite having no experience in farming.
10.15	Family Guy. Stewie and Brian use their time machine to help Chris pass his history test, but trouble ensues when the trio all get stuck in the past.
10.35	Family Guy. Peter and his cronies go on a worldwide quest to seek out and confront God about His messing with the outcome of the New England Patriots' football games.
11.00	Family Guy. Chris learns he is the heir his grandfather Carter's fortune, but he refuses to take the money - leaving Peter to resort to desperate measures to keep the wealth in the family.
11.20	FILM: Let Me In (2010). A bullied boy befriends a mysterious girl, unaware she is a vampire who is behind a recent series of killings. Horror remake, starring Chloe Grace Moretz and Kodi Smit-McPhee.
1.05	FILM: We Are What We Are (2010). Mexican horror, starring Francisco Barreiro.
2.30	Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R)
3.25	Sign Zone: Holby City. (R)
4.25	This Is BBC2.

ITV	
6.00	CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! 6.25 Pat & Stan 6.35 Dino Dan 6.45 Dino Dan 7.00 Animals 7.15 Sooty 7.30 Super 4 7.45 Fish Hooks 8.00 Young Justice: Invasion
8.25	ITV News.
8.30	Weekend. With Shaggy, Preeya Kalidas and Antony Cotton.
9.25	Murder, She Wrote. Jessica inherits shares in an American football team. (R)
10.20	The Jeremy Kyle Show. Guests air their differences. (R)
11.25	The Jeremy Kyle Show. Guests air their differences. (R)
12.25	ITV News and Weather: Weather.
12.35	Love Your Garden. Alan Titchmarsh creates a garden for a Dorset family. Last in the series. (R)
1.35	FILM: Smokey and the Bandit (1977). A truck driver is chased across America by a pompous sheriff while delivering a consignment of beer to a party. Comedy, starring Burt Reynolds, Jackie Gleason and Sally Field.
3.25	FILM: The Incredible Hulk (2008). A scientist who changes into a monster when angry is hunted by a general who wants to use the creature as a weapon. Comic-book adventure, starring Edward Norton and Liv Ullmann.
5.30	The Chase. Bradley Walsh presents as four contestants answer general knowledge questions and work as a team to take on ruthless quiz genius the Chaser and secure a cash prize. (R)
6.30	ITV News Central: Weather.
6.45	ITV News and Weather.
7.00	Nature Nuts with Julian Clary. Julian meets a woman who takes care of thousands of injured hedgehogs and helps her check up on a former patient, and meets two "other spotters". Last in the series.
8.00	Midsomer Murders. When the organiser of a folk festival is found dead, it seems the murder may have been inspired by a ballad made famous by a late, lamented singer. (R)
10.00	ITV News and Weather: Weather.
10.15	Man and Beast with Martin Clunes. Part one of two. The comedy actor travels to Nepal, where he meets a farmer whose cows not only provide milk, but also the fuel for lighting and cooking in his home. (R)
11.15	56 Up. Another chance to see the 2012 instalment of the landmark documentary series, featuring an update on a group of participants whose lives have been chronicled since 1964. (R)
12.15	Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.00	Motorsport UK. Action from Croft in North Yorkshire, featuring the Porsche Carrera Cup and MSA Formula Championship. Commentary by Richard John Neil.
3.50	ITV Nightscreen.
5.05	The Jeremy Kyle Show. The host invites guests to air their differences over family and relationship issues (R)

Channel 4	
6.15	How I Met Your Mother. Ted receives a shock at the cinema. (R)
6.40	How I Met Your Mother. Lily realises she still has doubts about becoming a parent. (R)
7.05	Volkswagen Racing Cup. Action from Brands Hatch.
7.30	Everybody Loves Raymond. Ally babysits the twins. (R)
8.00	Everybody Loves Raymond. Ray worries about losing his children's respect. (R)
8.30	Frasier. Martin buys Frasier an expensive gift. (R)
9.00	Frasier. Martin's girlfriend causes ructions. (R)
9.30	Sunday Brunch. With Will Mellor and Jess Glynne.
12.30	Amazing Spaces Shed of the Year 2015. Unique and historical sheds. (R)
1.30	The Big Bang Theory. Leonard's car is stolen. (R)
2.00	The Simpsons. Troy McClure hosts three spin-off segments. (R)
2.30	The Simpsons. Marge becomes a church volunteer. (R)
3.00	The Simpsons. Homer makes a bitter enemy. (R)
3.25	Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. Phil Spencer helps a beautician living with six dogs. (R)
4.30	Location, Location, Location. Family homes in Bournemouth and Poole. (R)
5.35	A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. St lives in Cornwall and Costa del Azahar in Spain.
6.30	Channel 4 News.
7.00	The Real Noah's Ark: Secret History. Inspired by his discovery of an ancient tablet shedding light on the biblical tale, Irving Finkel and a team of archaeological boat builders set out to construct a real Noah's ark. (R)
8.00	Experimental. Tim Shaw and Buddy Munro go to the Caucasus Mountains and try riding down the slopes on a shovel. Tim also builds a football-firing air cannon.
9.00	FILM: Zero Dark Thirty (2012). Premiere. Kathryn Bigelow's fact-based drama about intelligence and military operatives trying to track down Osama bin Laden over 10 years. With Jessica Chastain and Mark Strong.
12.05	FILM: Splice (2009). Two scientists create a new creature by mixing DNA from humans and animals, but the experiment soon gets out of control. Sci-fi horror, starring Adrien Brody.
1.50	Come Dine with Me. A part-time model and writer hosts the first dinner party in west London. (R)
2.15	Come Dine with Me. Steve Capel hosts the second party in west London. (R)
2.45	Come Dine with Me. Ex-wedding planner Zac Greenwood plays host in west London. (R)
3.10	Come Dine with Me. An events organiser hosts the penultimate dinner party in west London. (R)
3.40	Come Dine with Me. (R)
4.05	Double Your House for Half the Money. Families pooling their resources to live together under one roof. (R)
5.05	Location, Location, Location. (R)

Channel 5	
6.00	Milkshake!: Peppa Pig 6.05 Bananas in Pyjamas 6.20 Angelina Ballerina 6.30 Pip Ahoy! 6.45 The Mr Men Show 6.55 Chloe's Closet 7.05 Milkshake! Monkey 7.15 Make Way for Noddy 7.30 Paw Patrol 7.50 Little Princess 8.00 Wanda and the Alien 8.15 Zack and Quack 8.35 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 8.50 Jolly Jamm 9.00 LazyTown 9.30 Dora and Friends
10.00	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. Part two of two. Shredder joins forces with the invading Kraang. Last in the series. (R)
10.35	Football League Tonight. Highlights and all the goals from the Championship, League One and League Two. (R)
12.05	Police Interceptors. Barry Peach apprehends a fugitive who has been using a false identity. (R)
1.00	Police Interceptors. Jon Moon and his dog Kanto chase down burglary suspects. (R)
2.00	FILM: Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (2011). Comedy sequel, starring Jason Lee.
3.40	FILM: Willow (1988). Fantasy adventure, starring Warwick Davis.
6.10	FILM: Three Men and a Baby (1987). The lives of three flat-sharing bachelors change forever when they end up taking care of a baby left on their doorstep. Comedy, with Tom Selleck, Ted Danson and Steve Guttenberg. Edited for language and product placement.
7.55	5 News Weekend.
8.00	Police Interceptors Unleashed with Vinnie Jones. Reports of a handgun leads to a hotel being locked down while officers get prepared, while thieves crash a stolen car after a chase and are forced to flee on foot. (R)
9.00	FILM: Yes Man (2008). Premiere. A downtrodden man has his life transformed when he decides to say yes to every opportunity. Comedy based on the book by Danny Wallace, with Jim Carrey and Zooey Deschanel.
11.05	FILM: Killers (2010). A spy puts his life of espionage behind him and settles into domestic bliss, until a contract is placed on his life. Action comedy, starring Ashton Kutcher and Katherine Heigl.
12.55	SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.10	Under the Dome. The residents of Chester's Mill are kept safe by the dome as the outside world is hit by a catastrophic meteor shower, while Eva tries to reinforce her influence over Barbie. (R)
4.00	House Doctor. A property in Spennymoor, Co Durham. (R)
4.25	Make It Big. Sura's new rule is ignored by his colleagues. (R)
4.50	Make It Big. Josh's birthday cake gets locked in a drawer. (R)
5.15	Make It Big. Matt and Jess receive an official warning. (R)
5.45	Angels of Jarm. (R)
5.50	Angels of Jarm. (R)

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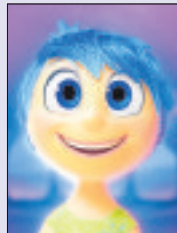
Cinema listings

HOT PURSUIT (12A)



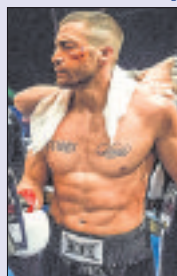
Criminal caper – 4/10
Officer Rose Cooper (Reese Witherspoon) is the laughing stock of San Antonio Police Department after an unfortunate incident with a taser gun. She is given an assignment which is her chance of redemption but in a messy plot she ends up being handcuffed to the wife of a cartel informant and on the run from dangerous criminals with detectives on their trail.

INSIDE OUT (U)



Pixar perfect – 10/10
Young girl Riley is shaped by five coloured emotions – Joy, Sadness, Fear, Anger and Disgust – which bicker behind a large control desk in her head. Joy and Sadness are expelled from 'Headquarters' and find themselves stranded in Riley's long-term memories and have to find a way back. Inside Out is Pixar's best film since Toy Story 3.

SOUTHPAW (15)



Punchy – 6/10
Billy Hope (Jake Gyllenhaal) is a giant of the boxing ring but when his wife is killed his daughter is taken away by the courts. In order to reunite his fractured family, Billy must prove to child services that he can be a responsible parent. To earn enough money to provide a home for Leila, Billy heads back into the boxing ring to fight his nemesis, Miguel 'Magic' Escobar (Miguel Gómez).

MAGGIE (15)



Arnie and zombies – 8/10
Wade Vogel (Schwarzenegger) spends two weeks searching for missing daughter Maggie in cities overrun with a zombie virus. Wade finds her and takes her home to the family ranch to enjoy what little time they have left. As the girl's predatory instincts take hold, step-mother Caroline urges Wade to make the ultimate sacrifice. Schwarzenegger is at his best.

Cruise on top form

by Damon Smith

CALL it testosterone-fuelled recklessness, hubris or feeling the need... the need for speed, Tom Cruise certainly puts on a show in the fifth instalment of the Mission: Impossible franchise.

He clings to the side of an aeroplane as it takes flight, slaloms at dizzying speed on a motorcycle and performs death-defying leaps as secret agent Ethan Hunt.

The 53-year-old star performs most of these hair-raising stunts himself, allowing writer-director Christopher McQuarrie to capture almost every second in thrilling close-up with minimum digital trickery.

Cruise's commitment to his role puts fellow action stars to shame – unlike the films of Stallone and Schwarzenegger, the script is devoid of wry one-liners to poke fun at his advancing years.

McQuarrie, Oscar-winning screenwriter of The Usual Suspects, bookmarks slam-bang action sequences with intentionally ambiguous exchanges between rival operatives, who acknowledge the futility of their efforts as pawns in the spy game. Their inevitable deaths will go unnoticed and fresh-faced young agents will step forward.

The film opens with the Impossible Missions Force (IMF) hijacking a shipment of nerve gas from Chechen separatists.

Soon after, CIA director Alan Hunley (Alec Baldwin) shuts down IMF for a total disregard for protocol, which led to the destruction of the Kremlin in the previous film. The hunters become the hunted when



Tom Cruise performs most of this own stunts in the latest instalment of the Mission: Impossible franchise

a shadowy organisation known as the Syndicate, fronted by Solomon Lane (Sean Harris), targets IMF for extinction.

Hunt covertly reunites with colleagues William Brandt (Jeremy Renner), Benji Dunn (Simon Pegg) and computer hacker Luther Stickell (Ving Rhames) to bring down The Syndicate using every gadget and turbo-charged vehicle at their disposal. The operation brings Hunt into close

contact with undercover MI6 agent Ilsa Faust (Rebecca Ferguson) and her slippery handler (Simon McBurney), a sadistic henchman known as the Bone Doctor (Jens Hulten) and the unsuspecting British prime minister (Tom Hollander).

Mission: Impossible – Rogue Nation is slickly bolted together by McQuarrie and editor Eddie Hamilton (Kick-Ass, Kingsman: The Secret Service).

Cruise somersaults, punches and tumbles through every frame without breaking sweat, while Pegg, who was pigeon-holed as comic relief in the previous instalment, steps up in a pivotal supporting role. Humour is used sparingly, leaving us hungry for another explosion of IMF antics. On this evidence, Mission: Impossible and its gun-ho leading man won't be self-destructing any time soon.

Book reviews

HIROSHIMA

By John Hersey
Published to mark the 70th anniversary of the atom bomb being dropped on Hiroshima, this piece of reportage remains a powerful insight into the horrific dawn of the atomic age. American journalist John Hersey's report was first published in the New Yorker magazine in 1946, the year after the US shocked Japan into surrender. The US would kill thousands of civilians by unleashing previously unknown weapons. Hersey's report is drawn from the experiences of a small group of civilian survivors, including a seamstress, doctors,



a secretary, a Methodist minister and German Jesuits. Hersey's dry, factual style adds clarity to the nightmarish vision that is described in 98 tightly written pages of classic journalism.

By Leon Burakowski

A LINE OF BLOOD

By Ben McPherson
Alex Mercer's life is turned upside down when he follows his young son into a neighbour's house to look for their pet cat and discovers the man dead in his bath. Worse is to follow when he discovers his wife's bracelet under the neighbour's bed. Alex was unaware his wife even knew the neighbour and he can't believe what is happening, particularly when it would appear the police are investigating the death as a possible murder.

Alex wants to protect his wife and son but just doesn't know how to deal with those relationships



any more. Added to that his father dies suddenly and he finds himself confronting his past. This is a psychological thriller in a very domestic setting which makes for compulsive reading.

By Deborah Knox

SOCIAL SWEETS

By Jason Atherton
Jason Atherton's food is among the best in Britain. The chef-patron of Soho's Pollen Street Social has long since emerged from the shadow of his former employer, Gordon Ramsay, to become a big-hitting, global star of gastronomy.

He is a unique cook whose intuitive flavour pairings and lightness of touch make him stand out from the crowd.

This is the companion volume to his commendable Social Suppers, which focuses on all things savoury.

It features more than 100 recipes and show-



cases his skills. From bakes to classic puddings, and from showy restaurant desserts to cheesey afters, it covers all bases.

Intelligent and creative, Atherton will get his just desserts.

By Andy Richardson

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William Taylor and Sam Edwards get ready for the fun day at Cae Glas Park, Oswestry



Jeanette Wood, Verna Roberts, Heather Clay and John Cooke prepare for the Ellesmere Flower and Produce Show

Rocker shares out some of his top tips

A SCHOOL in rural Shropshire is not the first place you would expect to find a German rock legend, but it's exactly where metal guitarist Uli Jon Roth was performing.

The former Scorpions guitarist took time out from touring to provide eight St Martins School students with a musical masterclass.

Mr Roth, who now describes himself as a "21st century renaissance artist", spent over an hour with the students and incorporated musical theory with practical pointers.

The message for the children was clear – practise, practise, practise.

Strumming his self-designed and self-tuning electric guitar worth £14,000, Mr Roth went on to dazzle the students with his picking prowess.

Although he spends most of the year on tour, Mr Roth has called Shropshire home for several years and currently lives in Llansilin near Oswestry. Music teacher Ceri James said the masterclass had been a definitive success: "It went really well and we're really grateful to Uli for coming down. It was a great experience for the kids to be taught by a legend."

Meanwhile, families who are looking for something to do in the summer holidays can enjoy a special fun day in Oswestry.

The event, in Cae Glas Park, will be held on Saturday.

It has been organised to raise funds for the Oswestry Musical Theatre Company, which has been in the town for more than 50 years, and for Hope House Children's Hospice.

One of those behind the fun day is a young member of the company, Danielle Box.

She said the idea was to give families in the area a good day out, and to raise money for good causes at the same time.

"We have put together a programme of entertainment for the whole family," she said.

SPECIAL REPORT

Report by Harry Leather

"There will be a princess beauty parlour for children who want to be pampered and at the same time a pamper tent for mummies to give the ladies some time out.

"We have the TNS community team coming along to do sports and football sessions and there will also be facepainting and a bouncy castle."

Trampolines will be in the park as well as donkey rides.

The fun day will run from 10am until 4pm.

Oswestry Musical Theatre Company is an amateur group performing musical theatre shows, based in Oswestry.

The group performs two shows a year, and performs and rehearses at the Marches School, in Oswestry.

Anyone interested in joining the company is welcome to pop along to rehearsals, which are usually held on Monday and Thursday evenings, from 7.30 - 10pm.

If floral displays are your thing, get along to Ellesmere later this month.

The Ellesmere Flower and Produce Show, which has been running under the same management for more than 30 years, will this summer make Ellesmere Town Hall its new home.

The show has previously been held at the town's market hall but organisers say it has been moved.

Chairman of the Ellesmere and District Gardener's Club Verna Roberts said: "It is going to be nice and warm and it will all be under cover which is good of course."

"The town hall already has tables which will be put up and taken down for us."

"We have also got use of the kitchen and the microphones."

The event will be held on August 29 and will be open from 8am for entries which will cost 10 pence per entry, or free for children under 15. The hall will then close again at 11am for judging before re-opening to the public from 2pm to 5pm.



Uli Jon Roth with some of the St Martins School students

Gwynne is delighted with his role at 'friendly' show

THE president of an annual show says he is "honoured and privileged" to take on the role.

Farmer Gwynne Owen has been involved with the organisation of Llanfyllin Show for 35 years, even being chairman in 2001 when the event had to be cancelled because of foot and mouth.

Now this year's show – which takes place on Saturday – will see Mr Owen take on the president's role for the first time. He said: "People work very hard to organise the show and we are very lucky to have such strong community spirit here. I feel very proud and it's a great privilege to be asked to be show president this year."

"The show is important because it brings the whole community together and is a great social event, as well as a fantastic family day out."

"Back in 2001 there was nothing much we could do that year because of animal movement restrictions, some of which still exist today. We put a marquee up on the farm and got everybody together to keep things going, even though we didn't have a show." Mr Owen has been



a servant to the local community for a number of years, having previously served as chairman and president of Llanfechain Show and chairman of Llanfechain Village Hall Committee.

He also served on the committee of the former Montgomeryshire County Show in Welshpool.

His wife Janet was Llanfyllin Show horse section sec-

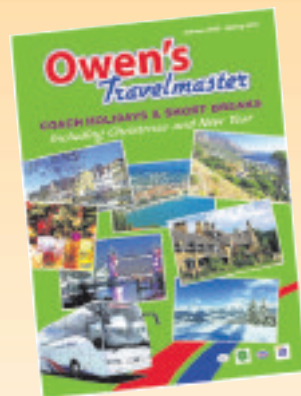
retary for several years and shares her husband's passion for horses. In fact, they first met on the show circuit.

The couple's youngest daughter, Zara, has inherited the same love of horses and now runs an equestrian business alongside the 120-acre grassland and arable farm.

Having qualified for the Horse of the Year Show for six consecutive years, Zara has recently won the Royal Highland Show championship with her hunter.

Known as the "friendly show," the event will be held at Bodfach Park, by permission of Simon and Maggie Baynes and Janet Jones. Highlights this year include a world record breaking stunt motorcycle team, James Dylan's Stuntworld and the All Wales Circuit Shearing Final, which brings together the 20 best sheep shearers in Wales in four different classes. There's also showjumping, a donkey derby, a display by Montgomeryshire Vintage Club, a village green area, where a full programme of family entertainment, sheepdog trials, a demonstration by Llanfyllin skateboarding group and a fashion show by Jems Dress Agency of Oswestry.

● Photo: Llanfyllin Show president Gwynne Owen with his wife Janet



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Builders' merchant kicks off development

BUILDERS' merchants chain TG Group is set to build a new branch in Bridgnorth, creating 20 jobs, after sealing a deal for a brownfield site in the town.

The company, which is based in Ellesmere, is to become the first business to move onto Chartwell Park in Bridgnorth after buying a plot of land on the site.

The six-acre plot was originally developed by Advantage West Midlands, and will now be used to house a new TG Builders Merchants branch.

The family-owned company, which recently celebrated its 140th year in business and which turns over £40 million a year, also runs concrete and aggregates, and waste services operations.

Group chairman Tudor Griffiths said: "We are delighted to acquire this land and to have the opportunity to bring business and jobs to Bridgnorth."

"It's especially pleasing that this land, which has laid dormant for several years following the recession, can now be put to good use."

"We are confident that our decision to move onto Chartwell Park will encourage more businesses to move here."

The builders' merchants branches in the group sell a range of products for local, regional and national builders, as well as the agricultural market with products for drainage and fencing.

The company has specialist departments that cover civil engineering and drainage, doors, architectural ironmongery and landscaping.

The new branch will be the eighth for the rapidly expanding group and is expected to be trading by Easter 2016. Seven further branches of TG Builders merchants are currently operating throughout Shropshire and surrounding counties.

The Chartwell Park branch complements another at Wolverley, which is just 12 miles away. Formerly Hardwicks Landscape Centre, the business was acquired by the TG Group in January 2014 and now trades under the name of TG Hardwicks.

Business is booming for owner of brick maker

THE owner of Shropshire brick maker Blockleys has seen business booming on the back of a rejuvenated construction sector.

Michelmers Brick Holdings enjoyed 13 per cent increase in turnover to £15.3 million, while operating profit almost doubled, from £1.4 million to £2.7 million.

The volume of bricks sold rose from 34 million to 36 million, meaning it outstripped production and cut the level of stock to six weeks' worth, and the company warned that the stock could not fall any further if it was to retain a "timely and reliable" service.

Chairman Eric Gadsden said: "The UK construction industry is now in a period of measured growth and the outcome of the election should provide a backdrop for this to continue."

"The brick industry has responded to the improvement in demand by increasing capacity where it can through investment and in de-mothballing those plants where this is possible."

"Imports continue to fill the gap between demand and supply although economic conditions may make this less attractive as time goes on."

Among the projects which have been delivered using Blockleys bricks was the new ITV studios at Media City in Salford, the new Humanities Building at Shrewsbury School, and the new Ercall College.

Landfill operations at the company's Shropshire operation at Hadley in Telford have ceased during the period, however, in an ongoing review of the site, and that has stripped £100,000 from its turnover figure.

Bosses say 'konnichiwa' to opportunity



Lajina Leal of Masala Magic

More than 20 companies joined together in Shropshire to talk about the benefits – and the difficulties – of doing business in Japan.

The taster event was run by UKTI Shropshire and it brought together firms from a variety of sectors at Shrewsbury's Momo No Ki restaurant in Abbey Foregate.

It was a forerunner to a trade visit to Japan being organised by the overseas trade organisation's county branch.

The trade visit to Japan will take place between November 16 and 19.

Richard Smith, of UKTI Shropshire,

said he had seen an increase in expressions of interest for the trade visit, and from a wider variety of sectors. "Last year we had about 15 companies interested, and ended up taking seven. We had 26 there, and another 10 to 15 expressing an interest," he said.

"We took mostly engineering companies with another from the pharmaceutical sector last year, but I think there will be more sectors represented this time."

"The last trip was a success, and I think the evidence is that four of last year's companies sent representatives

to the meeting and were very positive about their experiences."

"We know there's opportunities in engineering, but in the food and drink and fashion side you have a heavy consumer market that will spend money on heritage, story, and brands, and that wants to buy that traditional British culture."

The taster event saw Naomi Takegoshi, a senior trade advisor from UKTI Tokyo, meeting business owners to talk about the Japanese market.

The visit, which is heading to Tokyo, will be tailored to individual companies' requirements.

Golf day helps raise £10k for Peter Pan

A GOLF day has proved a huge hit for a children's charity after local businessmen pitched in to raise £10,000.

The Peter Pan Centre for Children with Special Needs hosted the event at Hawkstone Park and invited golfers from businesses and groups around the Midlands to take part.

The charity, based in Newcastle-under-Lyme, provides professional support and care to pre-school children with a wide range of disabilities, conditions and syndromes.

It also offers support to their families, helping people from across the region, including Staffordshire, Cheshire, Shropshire and the West Midlands.

The event, sponsored by Pinkstone Toyota, was won by the team from Planet Bollywood Indian Restaurant in Stoke-on-Trent.

All the teams then went on to enjoy an evening meal together and were entertained by a comedian following their rounds of golf.

There were also prizes for Joe Malthouse, a friend of the charity from London who achieved the longest drive of the day, whilst Nick Manson, from Mitten Clarke Accountants, won the award for getting nearest the pin with his tee shot.

Successful

Sophia Baker, head of fundraising at the centre, said it was the fourth annual golf day arranged by the charity, and easily the most successful.

"We raised £4,000 last year and had been hoping to achieve £5,000 this year – so to more than double this was an amazing result for us," she said.

"It was a tremendous effort from all the businesses concerned, who were so generous at the evening event, buying raffle tickets, bidding in our auction as well as making general gifts to the charity."

"We'd like to thank everyone who took part for making it such a wonderful event and a thoroughly enjoyable day for all concerned."

"It was the first year we've held the event at Hawkstone Park and I'd like to say a huge thank you to the team there too, who had the course looking fantastic and helped ensure a relaxed and enjoyable day."

"Our charity needs to raise £265,000 every year to maintain the level of service we currently provide, so raising so much on one day has given us all a great boost."

"We are already looking forward to next year's event, which now has a great deal to live up to."



Members of winning team who were representing Planet Bollywood Indian Restaurant in Stoke

Jan named chairman of town business partnership



Chairmen present and past - Jan Minihane and Robin Melley

JAN Minihane has been appointed the new chairman of Telford Business Partnership, taking over from Robin Melley.

Mr Melley stands down after three years at the helm, and has now been replaced by Ms Minihane, who runs The Net Advantage in Wellington.

She ran her first meeting at the Best Western Valley Hotel in Ironbridge, when delegates were asked to take part in a workshop looking at issues which are affecting the business landscape in Shropshire.

"As part of our ongoing commitment to our members, we're always looking to create opportunities that help them to network with colleagues and the workshop session was a great success," she said.

"Delegates had the chance to take part in a round table discussion on the issues they face every day in their business, and their opinions will now be fed back to the Telford Business Board."

"It means their concerns and comments will help to shape the future strategies the Business Board creates, and the feedback from our guests has been incredible as they felt it was an excel-

lent way to voice their concerns and thoughts." As well as taking part in the topical discussion, delegates heard from Melanie Stanton, from Telford & Wrekin Council, who explained the local authority's Apprenticeship Training Academy programme.

The other guest speaker was Dominic Proud who is responsible for the council's transport strategy and road safety initiatives.

He encouraged businesses to take part in upcoming surveys and workshops that could help bring in funding from central government to improve transport networks.

Do you have any business news to share with our readers? Email thom.kennedy@shropshirestar.co.uk

BRAIN TRAINING

Test your mental agility. Target times, in minutes, are in the little clocks

9-er

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all 9 letters.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

THE CLUES

91729 gives a composer;
62841 gives a singer;
374578 gives an instrument.

Your time:

X is to Y

1. Homer Simpson is to Bart as Peter Griffin is to ? BRIAN, CHRIS, CHUCK, MIKE, SETH

2. Mr Bean is to Rowan Atkinson as Monsieur Hulot is to ? JEAN-PAUL BELMONDO, GEORGES DUBAI, MARCEL MARCEAU, RENE NEAUSE, JACQUES TATI

3. John Humphrys is to Magnus Magnusson as Jeremy Paxman is to ? JIM BOWEN, BAMBER GASCOIGNE, VERNON KAYE, TOM O'CONNOR, ANNE ROBINSON

Your time:

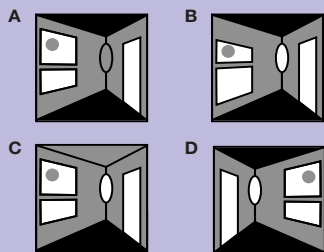
Mindbender

Yesterday, Ken became double the age that Emma turned last week; nine years ago, he was three times the age that Emma was thirteen years ago. How old was Ken yesterday?

Your time:

Mirror Image

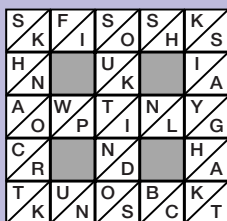
Which of the four shapes below is an exact mirror image of the shape on the right?



Your time:

Split Decision

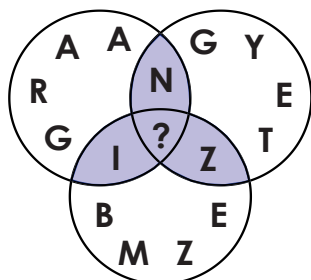
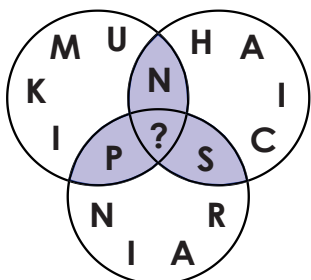
Cross out one of the two letters in each divided square to reveal a completed crossword grid.



Your time:

CIRCLEGRAM

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be rearranged to form words with a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?



ALPHAMUDDLE

Rearrange the letters to make five words that read both across and down. Five letters have been placed to start you off.

R U C T Y
A L T I L
A R I D E
R U N E L
D E A N E

U R A T E

IMPOSSIPUZZLES

1. Tom took a deep breath. 'I'll guess your age, Dad,' he said. 'Think of a number.' 'Not me, and you know it anyway,' Bob replied. 'But I've got something to make you think. If you add the two figures of your Aunt Ethel's age, and then multiply their sum by twice their difference, you'll get what her age will be in two years' time.' That was a tough one, but what was the woman's age?

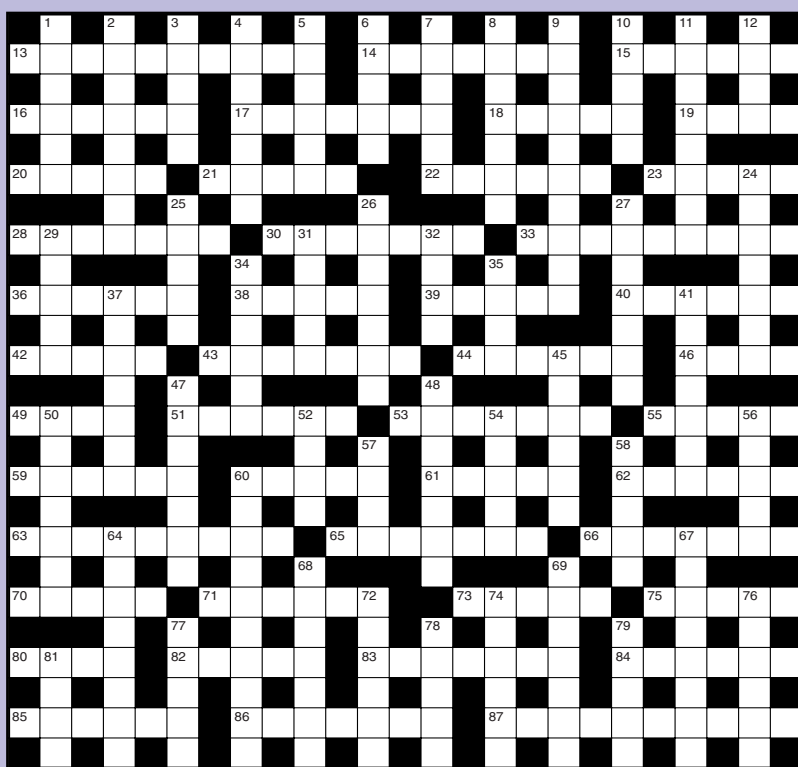
2. 'That's funny, Dad,' said Carol. 'Ten years ago you were three times as old as I was.' Terry nodded. 'That's right, but what's so funny about it?' 'Well, now you're older,' Carol replied. 'But you're only twice as old as I am.' How old is she?

3. 'I left my watch at that new repair place today,' said Paul. 'What's the time?' Charlie glanced at his watch and thought a moment. 'You can figure it out yourself,' he replied. 'The minute hand is right on a minute mark, exactly 13 minutes ahead of the hour hand.' Well?

SUDOKU

		1	9		5	7		
			6	3	1			
6								9
9	8		1		6		5	4
	1						6	
2	6		5		8		3	1
7								8
			3	5	7			
		6	8		9	5		

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 13 Go-ahead (5,5)
- 14 Understand (7)
- 15 Songs (6)
- 16 Devoured (6)
- 17 Leaning (7)
- 18 Nominate (3,2)
- 19 List (4)
- 20 Business (5)
- 21 Paces (5)
- 22 Glass container (6)
- 23 Dog (5)
- 28 Halted (7)
- 30 Keeping (7)
- 33 Attacking (7,2)
- 36 Packed (6)
- 38 Fair (5)
- 39 Cook (5)
- 40 Rest (6)
- 42 Warm (5)
- 43 Splash (7)
- 44 Unimportant (6)
- 46 Nonsense (4)
- 49 Help (4)
- 51 Occurrences (6)
- 53 Seize (7)
- 55 Plank (5)
- 59 Embrace (6)
- 60 Glower (5)
- 61 Love (5)
- 62 Unharmful (6)
- 63 Well (2,3,4)
- 65 Suggest (7)
- 66 Quasiness (7)
- 70 Deliberate (5)
- 71 Sundry (6)
- 73 Fat (5)
- 75 Roost (5)
- 80 So (4)
- 82 Contend (5)
- 83 Raising (7)
- 84 Sailor (6)
- 85 Tiny (6)
- 86 New (7)
- 87 Well done! (4,3,3)

DOWN

- 1 Enthusiasm (6)
- 2 Strengthened (6,2)
- 3 Slip (5)
- 4 Worry (7)
- 5 Clog (4,2)
- 6 Mind (5)
- 7 Old car (6)
- 8 Quarrel (7)
- 9 Finish (3,7)
- 10 Flutters (5)
- 11 Press on (4,4)
- 12 Agreement (4)
- 24 Adversities (7)
- 25 Set (5)
- 26 Relation (7)
- 27 Whisks off (7)
- 29 Right (5)
- 31 Topsy (6)
- 32 Goggle (4)
- 34 Pass (6)
- 35 Follow (4)
- 37 Composed (7)
- 41 Extinguishes (4,3)
- 45 Stone (6)
- 47 Maybe (7)
- 48 Dish (7)
- 50 Remainder (7)
- 52 Implement (4)
- 54 Fish (5)
- 56 Wobbles (5)
- 57 Open (4)
- 58 Seat (5)
- 60 Learning (7,3)
- 64 Distributes (5,3)
- 67 Opening (8)
- 68 Beats (7)
- 69 Medical man (7)
- 72 Endeavour (6)
- 74 Pain (6)
- 76 Gulch (6)
- 77 Accepted (5)
- 78 Temper (5)
- 79 Gist (5)
- 81 Greet (4)

SOLUTIONS

9-er
1. Chris, 2. Jacques Tati, 3. Bamber Gascoigne
Mindbender
Sixty years old.
Mirror image
D is the mirror image.
Split Decision >

K	I	O	S	K
A	P	T	L	Y
C	D	A		
K	N	O	C	K

Crossword
ACROSS: 13 Green light, 14 Realise, 15 Minute, 16 United, 17 Good for you, 18 Thus, 19 Argue, 20 Diver, 21 Sick, 22 Pouch, 23 Capture, 24 Board, 25 Inch, 26 Cornice, 27 Split, 28 Light, 29 Torch, 30 Abet, 31 Events, 32 Light, 33 Pouch, 34 Repose, 35 Tapid, 36 Stopped, 37 Storage, 38 Jumping on, 39 Stowed, 40 Road, 41 Steps, 42 Heir, 43 Pouch, 44 Down, 45 Tipped, 46 Flap, 47 Bear, 48 Dispute, 49 Get through, 50 Flaps, 51 Bear, 52 Down, 53 Deal, 54 Crosses, 55 Ready, 56 Gape, 57 Elapse, 58 Tail, 59 Written, 60 Puts, 61 Brother, 62 Spirits, 63 Tilt, 64 Tight, 65 Gape, 66 Elapse, 67 Tail, 68 Written, 69 Puts, 70 Balance, 71 Deal, 72 Crosses, 73 Flaps, 74 Undo, 75 Rocks, 76 Undo, 77 Taken, 78 Paddy, 79 Drift, 80 Hail, 81 Hail, 82 Canyon, 83 Surgeon, 84 Strain, 85 Aperture, 86 Debate, 87 Hands out, 88 Duan, 89 Finding out, 90 Rocks, 91 Undo, 92 Balance, 93 Elapse, 94 Tail, 95 Written, 96 Puts, 97 Brother, 98 Spirits, 99 Tilt, 100 Tight, 101 Gape, 102 Elapse, 103 Tail, 104 Written, 105 Puts, 106 Balance, 107 Deal, 108 Crosses, 109 Flaps, 110 Bear, 111 Dispute, 112 Get through, 113 Flaps, 114 Bear, 115 Down, 116 Deal, 117 Crosses, 118 Ready, 119 Gape, 120 Elapse, 121 Tail, 122 Written, 123 Puts, 124 Brother, 125 Spirits, 126 Tilt, 127 Tight, 128 Gape, 129 Elapse, 130 Tail, 131 Written, 132 Puts, 133 Balance, 134 Deal, 135 Crosses, 136 Flaps, 137 Bear, 138 Dispute, 139 Get through, 140 Flaps, 141 Bear, 142 Down, 143 Deal, 144 Crosses, 145 Ready, 146 Gape, 147 Elapse, 148 Tail, 149 Written, 150 Puts, 151 Brother, 152 Spirits, 153 Tilt, 154 Tight, 155 Gape, 156 Elapse, 157 Tail, 158 Written, 159 Puts, 160 Balance, 161 Deal, 162 Crosses, 163 Flaps, 164 Bear, 165 Dispute, 166 Get through, 167 Flaps, 168 Bear, 169 Down, 170 Deal, 171 Crosses, 172 Ready, 173 Gape, 174 Elapse, 175 Tail, 176 Written, 177 Puts, 178 Brother, 179 Spirits, 180 Tilt, 181 Tight, 182 Gape, 183 Elapse, 184 Tail, 185 Written, 186 Puts, 187 Balance, 188 Deal, 189 Crosses, 190 Flaps, 191 Bear, 192 Dispute, 193 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716 Written, 717 Puts, 718 Brother, 719 Spirits, 720 Tilt, 721 Tight, 722 Gape, 723 Elapse, 724 Tail, 725 Written, 726 Puts, 727 Balance, 728 Deal, 729 Crosses, 730 Flaps, 731 Bear, 732 Dispute, 733 Get through, 734 Flaps, 735 Bear, 736 Down, 737 Deal, 738 Crosses, 739 Ready, 740 Gape, 741 Elapse, 742 Tail, 743 Written, 744 Puts, 745 Brother, 746 Spirits, 747 Tilt, 748 Tight, 749 Gape, 750 Elapse, 751 Tail, 752 Written, 753 Puts, 754 Balance, 755 Deal, 756 Crosses, 757 Flaps, 758 Bear, 759 Dispute, 760 Get through, 761 Flaps, 762 Bear, 763 Down, 764 Deal, 765 Crosses, 766 Ready, 767 Gape, 768 Elapse, 769 Tail, 770 Written, 771 Puts, 772 Brother, 773 Spirits, 774 Tilt, 775 Tight, 776 Gape, 777 Elapse, 778 Tail, 779 Written, 780 Puts, 781 Balance, 782 Deal, 783 Crosses, 784 Flaps, 785 Bear, 786 Dispute, 787 Get through, 788 Flaps, 789 Bear, 790 Down, 791 Deal, 792 Crosses, 793 Ready, 794 Gape, 795 Elapse, 796 Tail, 797 Written, 798 Puts, 799 Brother, 800 Spirits, 801 Tilt, 802 Tight, 803 Gape, 804 Elapse, 805 Tail, 806 Written, 807 Puts, 808 Balance, 809 Deal, 810 Crosses, 811 Flaps, 812 Bear, 813 Dispute, 814 Get through, 815 Flaps, 816 Bear, 817 Down, 818 Deal, 819 Crosses, 820 Ready, 821 Gape, 822 Elapse, 823 Tail, 824 Written, 825 Puts, 826 Brother, 827 Spirits, 828 Tilt, 829 Tight, 830 Gape, 831 Elapse, 832 Tail, 833 Written, 834 Puts, 835 Balance, 836 Deal, 837 Crosses, 838 Flaps, 839 Bear, 840 Dispute, 841 Get through, 842 Flaps, 843 Bear, 844 Down, 845 Deal, 846 Crosses, 847 Ready, 848 Gape, 849 Elapse, 850 Tail, 851 Written, 852 Puts, 853 Brother, 854 Spirits, 855 Tilt, 856 Tight, 857 Gape, 858 Elapse, 859 Tail, 860 Written, 861 Puts, 862 Balance, 863 Deal, 864 Crosses, 865 Flaps, 866 Bear, 867 Dispute, 868 Get through, 869 Flaps, 870 Bear, 871 Down, 872 Deal, 873 Crosses, 874 Ready, 875 Gape, 876 Elapse, 877 Tail, 878 Written, 879 Puts, 880 Brother, 881 Spirits, 882 Tilt, 883 Tight, 884 Gape, 885 Elapse, 886 Tail, 887 Written, 888 Puts, 889 Balance, 890 Deal, 891 Crosses, 892 Flaps, 893 Bear, 894 Dispute, 895 Get through, 896 Flaps, 897 Bear, 898 Down, 899 Deal, 900 Crosses, 901 Ready, 902 Gape, 903 Elapse, 904 Tail, 905 Written, 906 Puts, 907 Brother, 908 Spirits, 909 Tilt, 910 Tight, 911 Gape, 912 Elapse, 913 Tail, 914 Written, 915 Puts, 916 Balance, 917 Deal, 918 Crosses, 919 Flaps, 920 Bear, 921 Dispute, 922 Get through, 923 Flaps, 924 Bear, 925 Down, 926 Deal, 927 Crosses, 928 Ready, 929 Gape, 930 Elapse, 931 Tail, 932 Written, 933 Puts, 934 Brother, 935 Spirits, 936 Tilt, 937 Tight, 938 Gape, 939 Elapse, 940 Tail, 941 Written, 942 Puts, 943 Balance, 944 Deal, 945 Crosses, 946 Flaps, 947 Bear, 948 Dispute, 949 Get through, 950 Flaps, 951 Bear, 952 Down, 953 Deal, 954 Crosses, 955 Ready, 956 Gape, 957 Elapse, 958 Tail, 959 Written, 960 Puts, 961 Brother, 962 Spirits, 963 Tilt, 964 Tight, 965 Gape, 966 Elapse, 967 Tail, 968 Written, 969 Puts, 970 Balance, 971 Deal, 972 Crosses, 973 Flaps, 974 Bear, 975 Dispute, 976 Get through, 977 Flaps, 978 Bear, 979 Down, 980 Deal, 981 Crosses, 982 Ready, 983 Gape, 984 Elapse, 985 Tail, 986 Written, 987 Puts, 988 Brother, 989 Spirits, 990 Tilt, 991 Tight, 992 Gape, 993 Elapse, 994 Tail, 995 Written, 996 Puts, 997 Balance, 998 Deal, 999 Crosses, 1000 Flaps, 1001 Bear, 1002 Dispute, 1003 Get through, 1004 Flaps, 1005 Bear, 1006 Down, 1007 Deal, 1008 Crosses, 1009 Ready, 1010 Gape, 1011 Elapse, 1012 Tail, 1013 Written, 1014 Puts, 1015 Brother, 1016 Spirits, 1017 Tilt, 1018 Tight, 1019 Gape, 1020 Elapse, 1021 Tail, 1022 Written, 1023 Puts, 1024 Balance, 1025 Deal, 1026 Crosses, 1027 Flaps, 1028 Bear, 1029 Dispute, 1030 Get through, 1031 Flaps, 1032 Bear, 1033 Down, 1034 Deal, 1035 Crosses, 1036 Ready, 1037 Gape, 1038 Elapse, 1039 Tail, 1040 Written, 1041 Puts, 1042 Brother, 1043 Spirits, 1044 Tilt, 1045 Tight, 1046 Gape, 1047 Elapse, 1048 Tail, 1049 Written, 1050 Puts, 1051 Balance, 1052 Deal, 1053 Crosses, 1054 Flaps, 1055 Bear, 1056 Dispute, 1057 Get through, 1058 Flaps, 1059 Bear, 1060 Down, 1061 Deal, 1062 Crosses, 1063 Ready, 1064 Gape, 1065 Elapse, 1066 Tail, 1067 Written, 1068 Puts, 1069 Brother, 1070 Spirits, 1071 Tilt, 1072 Tight, 1073 Gape, 1074 Elapse, 1075 Tail, 1076 Written, 1077 Puts, 1078 Balance, 1079 Deal, 1080 Crosses, 1081 Flaps, 1082 Bear, 1083 Dispute, 1084 Get through, 1085 Flaps, 1086 Bear, 1087 Down, 1088 Deal, 1089 Crosses, 1090 Ready, 1091 Gape, 1092 Elapse, 1093 Tail, 1094 Written, 1095 Puts, 1096 Brother, 1097 Spirits, 1098 Tilt, 1099 Tight, 1100 Gape, 1101 Elapse, 1102 Tail, 1103 Written, 1104 Puts, 1105 Balance, 1106 Deal, 1107 Crosses, 1108 Flaps, 1109 Bear, 1110 Dispute, 1111 Get through, 1112 Flaps, 1113 Bear, 1114 Down, 1115 Deal, 1116 Crosses, 1117 Ready, 1118 Gape, 1119 Elapse, 1120 Tail, 1121 Written, 1122 Puts, 1123 Brother, 1124 Spirits, 1125 Tilt, 1126 Tight, 1127 Gape, 1128 Elapse, 1129 Tail, 1130 Written, 1131 Puts, 1132 Balance, 1133 Deal, 1134 Crosses, 1135 Flaps, 1136 Bear, 1137 Dispute, 1138 Get through, 1139 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BROKEN hearted lady 39 seeks loving male to mend heart age 39/40. Text only to Mailbox No: 4869116

AMANDA, 36, tall, slim, busty brunette seeks man, any age, any area, for discreet daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 515 4292 Box No: 418117

SENSUAL tactile, attractive female, long blonde hair, blue eyes, loves travel, wing/dining, WLTM genuine male for mutual companionship. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418609

DISCREET man wanted by married lady for no strings fun. I'm called Sarah and am 37yrs. Pls call, ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 4299 Box No: 418167

KAY, very young 45, fit and active, no ties, seeks similar young at heart, fun male for fun meets. Age/Status/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418577

ANN, young looking 40yrs seeks broad-minded man of any age/location for no strings discreet times, games and more. Tel No: 0906 515 4294 Box No: 418609

VIVACIOUS strawberry blonde who knows just what she wants, looking for caring male for spontaneous fun relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418445

ANNA, busty mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location. Tel No: 0906 515 4295 Box No: 366019

WENDY, 40, slim, fit, bubbly female looking to meet a tall, slim, fit, mature male who thinks he can keep up. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418369

MELANIE, 38, slim, blonde and bored. Call you want no strings fun. Text only to Mailbox No: 4550198

JO 55, curvy redhead, loves eating out, theatre, travel, looking for middle-aged prince charming to sweep me off my feet. Text only to Mailbox No: 4464905

KELLY, 42yrs, loves to chat and flirt with guys on-line and by text. Text only to Mailbox No: 4465847

GENUINE lady looking for genuine male, age 58-60, for friendship and to have a laugh with. So if that's you who would love to hear from you. Text only to Mailbox No: 4537136

MINDY, American lady moved to UK and wants to meet British chap for chat, fun, more. Text only to Mailbox No: 4658653

PAT 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418277

TARA, 32, own successful business but very shy and lonely seeks confident chap. Text only to Mailbox No: 4646629

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414773

WENDY, 40, slim, fit, bubbly female looking to meet a tall, slim, fit, mature male who thinks he can keep up. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418369

EILEEN, slim green eyed brunette likes male and does cosy nights in, seeks tall male who would make her laugh and brighten up her day. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418347

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416287

FEMALE seeking gent 55-70, down to earth, nice and intelligent who knows how to treat a lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417195

YOUNG early 40's female, GSOH, kind, caring, considerate, seeks male for friendship, possible romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410847

CAROL 49, attractive, green eyed blonde, honest warm hearted, n/s with GSOH likes cinema, music, walking, meals out and travel seeking similar male. Text only to Mailbox No: 4283683

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HEATHER, 34, single very attractive brunette, sensual and interesting, looking to add to life's experiences and adventures with professional male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418193

JACKIE lonely and looking for male companion, 48-65. Need a bit of love and affection? Then I'm your girl. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418169

JAN, 47, once bitten twice shy! Looking for non complicated fun times. Attractive, discreet, OHAC, you won't be disappointed. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418089

MID naughty forties female looking fun, thrills and discreet meets, give me a call, you won't be disappointed. Any age with own accomodation. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409109

EMMA, 43, easygoing female looking to broaden her horizons, WLTM similar male for romantic liaisons. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418009

SHARON, 48, tall slim attractive, live alone with no ties, love romanticising and WLTM man for good times together, maybe more. Any age. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417751

SINGLE mom, 40yrs, small, not skinny WLTM single dad aged 39 to 45. Text only to Mailbox No: 4295299

FEMALE, 36, looking for a genuine guy to win and dine me with lots of laughter and fun times. Text only to Mailbox No: 4758012

JULIE, attractive early 40's brunette, size 10, varied interests, WLTM male for fun times, good conversations, spoiling and maybe more, status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418007

FEMALE, 36, looking for a genuine guy to win and dine me with lots of laughter and fun times. Text only to Mailbox No: 4758012

GINA, attractive 36, single, blonde, loves to cook, looking for her soul mate seeks tall male for lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417419

ZARA 5ft 4ins, slim, single mum, honest, caring, likes walks, seeking genuine male, 45-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417513

CARING lovely curvy female 41 seeks genuine and caring guy. Text only to Mailbox No: 4721992

GINA, attractive 36, single, blonde, loves to cook, looking for her soul mate seeks tall male for lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417419

KAREN 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416337

MARIA gorgeous leggy blonde seeks tall professional male for fun nights out, cosy nights in with plenty of TLC and romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416861

SUSAN 44, stunning curvy blonde, fit and active seeks happy go lucky male for good conversation, fun times, maybe more. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416801

STELLA 50, gorgeous, voluptuous and all woman seeks sensual older male, who knows just what he wants for lots of naughty fun and TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416707

SLIM fair-haired lady, 5ft4 looking for a male 30 to 40 for LTR in Warwickshire area. Text Only Mailbox No: 4527227

STELLA 50, gorgeous, voluptuous and all woman seeks sensual older male, who knows just what he wants for lots of naughty fun and TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416707

PAULA 40, sensual, young at heart brunette looking for some fun and romance with a tall outgoing male. Call if you feel the same. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416681

VAL 41, pretty, cuddly, flirty, seeks similar fun loving male for an uncomplicated no strings relationship. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416601

EILEEN 49, lovely brunette, adventurous and eager to please seeks intelligent male to share the fun side of life together. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416521

CHRISTINE 48, shy sensitive brunette looking for lively older male to make her smile again and bring back some passion. s Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416519

BEAUTIFUL full figured, down to earth black woman, 37, looking for some serious fun with same minded, confident, older guy. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416490

LINDA, 47, brown-eyed blonde, caring, loving and honest, many interests, seeks genuine male (relationship text only) all time answered. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417211

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416287

ELLEN 45, attractive, with statuesque curvy figure, looking for an uncomplicated relationship with understanding male friend. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417663

MICHELLE, 37, pretty, very fit, well travelled seeks active, broadminded male to share new experiences and adventures with. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417651

SANDY, mature, very young looking widow seeks fit young man to enjoy fun, cuddles and kisses. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417581

ATTRACTIVE lady, young looking, single would love to meet uniformed officer. Must be sincere and genuine. Text only to Mailbox No: 4727985

SANDY, mature, very young looking widow seeks fit young man to enjoy fun, cuddles and kisses. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417581

GINA, attractive 36, single, blonde, loves to cook, looking for her soul mate seeks tall male for lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417419

FEMALE, kind caring and loving seeks similar male for relationship text only all time answered. Text only Mailbox No: 4655519

PRETTY slim female, 48, N/S, no ties, seeks tall, slim leaved male for initial friendship and evenings out. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416727

FEMALE, kind caring and loving seeks similar male for relationship text only all time answered. Text only Mailbox No: 4655519

Hi my name is Zara. I am 5ft 4ins, slim build, I am looking for a genuine male aged between 45 and 50 with GSOH who enjoys going out. Text only Mailbox No: 4362903

THELMA, 43, attractive blonde, seeks loving, honest, funny male to pamper and make happy. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416979

DAWN attractive, easygoing, and dazzling, WLTM well built mature male for fun loving no strings romance. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416917

MID naughty forties female looking fun, thrills and discreet meets, give me a call, you won't be disappointed. Any age with own accomodation. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409109

KAREN medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415429

KAREN 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416337

MARIA gorgeous leggy blonde seeks tall professional male for fun nights out, cosy nights in with plenty of TLC and romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416861

SUSAN 44, stunning curvy blonde, fit and active seeks happy go lucky male for good conversation, fun times, maybe more. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416801

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STELLA 50, gorgeous, voluptuous and all woman seeks sensual older male, who knows just what he wants for lots of naughty fun and TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416707

PAULA 40, sensual, young at heart brunette looking for some fun and romance with a tall outgoing male. Call if you feel the same. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416681

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FEMALE seeking gent 55-70, down to earth, nice and intelligent who knows how to treat a lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417195

KATHERINE, romantic, slim, feminine, loves to live life to the full, seeks adventurous outgoing male to appreciate and share life with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417091

SHERRIE 32, blonde, great company, loves going out, looking to share life with that special someone. Status/Looks/age unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417067

KAREN 50, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, GSOH, loving, caring, understanding, seeking similar male, 55-55. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416989

KAREN 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416337

THELMA, 43, attractive blonde, seeks loving, honest, funny male to pamper and make happy. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416979

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BEAUTIFUL full figured, down to earth black woman, 37, looking for some serious fun with same minded, confident, older guy. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416490

SINCERE lady, seeks similar gent, widower preferred, 60-67, 5ft 6ins, so slightly taller than me, N/S, car owner and likes a dog. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416471

KAREN 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416337

JUNE 50, beautiful, funny, young, looking blonde WLTM attractive down to earth male for no strings fun, laughter and love. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416299

SHELLY 36, tiny shy brunette seeks down to earth, sensitive, older male to snuggle up, share a bottle of wine with and pamper. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416235

KATHERINE 33, pretty blonde would love to get intimate with outgoing, fit guy who is also looking for fun relationship with no strings. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416197

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416287

PAT 5ft 2ins, medium build, attractive, blonde hair, widow, seeking N/S, sincere gent for friendship and days out. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416057

ALICE 36, tall and slim with long brown hair, outgoing and sporty seeks funny, intelligent guy to share active days and cosy nights. Age/looks not important. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416087

DIANE 37, sensual, tactile and loving seeks tall male for interesting conversations and cosy intimate nights together. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416085

BRIDGET 48, voluptuous, seductive and very saucy, seeks male for lots of TLC and to make very happy in return. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416083

KAREN 50, widow, 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks gent with GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415871

GWEN middle aged, 65-75, 5ft 2ins, likes theatre, country music, holidays, seeks N/S male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415785

ASIA very attractive slim single black 32yr female looking for fun times with god time guy with GSOH and a real passion for life and falling in love. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415837

SARAH 31yrs looking for casual 1-2-1 no strings fun with broadminded bored male. Status unimportant, discretion and mutual respect essential. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415821

LINDA uncomplicated female who loves the simple things in life, looking for N/S male with GSOH for nights in/out, no games, users or time wasters please. s Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415535

PATRICIA widow 67, likes simple pleasures in life, seeks gent, N/S for friendship/companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415688

KAREN 50, widow, blonde hair, GSOH, 5ft 5ins, slim, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415787

GEM 34yr old pretty brunette with lovely big eyes and nice skin, many interests, WLTM kind tallish male, 30-50yrs for serious relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415571

SYLVIA attractive blonde size 12 45yr old female looking for genuine companionship, someone to spend quality times with, enjoy music and cosy times together. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415543

TALL dark, attractive white male, 57, seeks attractive, Asian/black female for discreet, daytime fun, 20-45. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417483

ATTRACTIVE tall, dark, professional gent, GSOH, likes sports, socialising, good company, seeking female with GSOH for laughs, conversation and maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415969

GUY 57, 5'11" looking for no strings fun with same minded, slim lady. Text only to Mailbox No: 4495128

GLYNN 49, young looking, seeks black female, 21-30 for loving relationship and fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416600

GOOD looking 36 years old guy seeking a lady to have a lasting friendship/relationship with. Text only to Mailbox No: 485812

51 year old male divorced, good sense of humour, likes walks and animals, looking for a balanced lady to share happy times with. Text only to Mailbox No: 486024

MALE seeking female, 45 plus, status unimportant, discretion assured for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418481

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deaths

DAVIES

Louisa May

(May)

Of Dyfnant, Sarnau.

Passed away peacefully at The Victoria Memorial Hospital on August 4, 2015.

Aged 88 years.

Funeral Service will take place at Sarnau Chapel on Friday, August 21, at 12 noon, followed by Interment at Guilsfield Cemetery.

Family flowers only, donations if desired to Sarnau Chapel or The Maldwyn Ward of Welshpool Hospital.

All inquiries please to

AUBREY KIRKHAM
Funeral Directors,
The Elms,
Four Crosses,
01691 839292

JONES

Pam

nee Pilkington

Of Shrewsbury, formerly of Stafford. Beloved Wife of Alistair and a loving and much loved Mum to Marcus, Duncan and their Families. Passed away suddenly at home.

The Funeral arrangements will be announced once they are finalised.

All inquiries please to

AUBREY KIRKHAM
Funeral Directors,
Ffrinonell Island,
Shrewsbury,
01743 368599

SHARP

Margaret

Formerly of York Road, beloved Wife of the late Chris and a much loved Mother, Grandmother and Sister, passed away on August 1, 2015.

The Funeral Service will take place in Emstrey Crematorium Chapel, London Road, Shrewsbury on Wednesday, August 19, at 11am.

Family flowers only please, however your very kind donations will be shared between S.K.I.D. (Shrewsbury Kids with Insulin Dependant Diabetes) and Alzheimer's UK.

All inquiries please to

AUBREY KIRKHAM
Funeral Directors,
Ffrinonell Island,
Shrewsbury,
01743 368599

STREET

Dorothy Elizabeth Ann

(Ann)

Of Heath Houses, Abbey Foregate, passed away on August 1, 2015.

Funeral details will be available shortly.

All inquiries please to

AUBREY KIRKHAM
Funeral Directors,
Ffrinonell Island,
Shrewsbury,
01743 368599

Family Announcements

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Before 4.30 pm Friday for Monday.

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DRIVETIME



Updated 'glasshouse' 500

Fiat has released the first pictures of the updated 500, complete with 'airy glasshouse' and rear lights that 'almost look like illuminated tattoos'.

More than 1,800 'innovative' detail changes have been made, says Fiat, on a car that intends to keep its crown as the high-cost city car of choice – prices for entry-level versions will start at £10,890, or about the same as an absolutely top-spec Skoda Citigo.

Such an overhaul of minor details has left the styling largely alone, which will be music to the 500 fan club's ears, although the front does now have

modern LED daytime running lights for a more '2016' look.

It's also the same size as before, at 3.57m long, 1.63m wide and 1.49m tall, with the signature clamshell bonnet but slightly more angled headlights for a 'bolder and more confident gaze'.

Inside the 'airy glasshouse' – that would be the passenger area, then – things are just as familiar despite claims of 'extensive revisions'.

But all versions now feature the Uconnect entertainment system, previously only offered on high-end grades.

Three petrol engines that buyers already know and love will be offered; a 68bhp 1.2 as the cheapest option and two versions of the 0.9-litre TwinAir two-cylinder turbo, with 84 and 104bhp respectively. The TwinAir 84bhp has achieved an average of 74.3mpg in official tests.

Safety is boosted by larger brakes than before, while somehow the engineers have stuffed seven airbags into the tiny cabin – or should that be 'glasshouse'?

The 500 is due to go on sale in September, with prices of high-spec models expected to reach perilously close to £18,000.

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56 PEUGEOT 307 XSI 2.0 HDI Diesel, Bronze Met, Leather.....	£3650
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13 (13)	KIA RIO 1.4 Ecodynamic 2.5dr. Electric blue	£11,850
13 (13)	PEUGEOT 208 1.6 E-HDI ALLURE, 3-Dr. Virtual Blue	£10,450
12 (12)	NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI ASENTA, Arctic White	£10,250
12 (12)	NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI ASENTA Sport, Force Red	£10,750
11 (11)	NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI ASENTA Red	£10,850
11 (11)	VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 CDTi SRi 6,000 miles, £30 Road Tax	£12,950
11 (11)	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.6 TDI MATCH Shadow Blue	DUE IN
10 (10)	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI EXPRESSION Silver	£8,650
09 (09)	SUZUKI SWIFT 1.3 DDI 5-Dr, Garnet Orange	£4,950
09 (09)	PEUGEOT 308 1.6 HDI Estate, Silver	£7,850
09 (09)	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.7 CDTi DESIGN 5-Dr. Silver	£5,750
08 (08)	VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.3 CDTi BREEZE Steel Blue	£3,450
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07 (07)	FORD FIESTA 1.6 TDCI ZETEC. Silver	£3,850
05 (05)	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.9 CDTi DESIGN, Black	£3,250

Petrol Selection

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13 (13)	NISSAN JUKE 1.6 ASENTA in Arctic White	DUE IN
13 (13)	KIA RIO 2.1 4 in Blaze Red	£9,975
12 (12)	SUZUKI SWIFT 1.2 SZ4 Red 8,000 miles	£8,450

12 (12)	RENAULT CLIO 1.2 5-dr. DYNAMIQUE Tom Tom, Silver	£9,950
11 (11)	HONDA JAZZ 1.4 ES 5-dr. Grey, 3,700 miles	£9,650
11 (11)	MINI ONE 1.6 3dr. Red, 24,000 miles	£7,850
11 (11)	NEW KIA PICANTO 1.0 AIR Bright Silver	£6,450
10 (10)	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 Turbo, Black	WAS £11,450 NOW £10,450
10 (10)	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SRi Technical Grey	WAS £11,650 NOW £10,650
10 (10)	NEW RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE Tom Tom, 6,000 miles	WAS £10,250 NOW £9,250
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07 (07)	VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE 1.6 LUNA Silver	DUE IN
06 (06)	PEUGEOT 207 SE 16v 5-dr. Silver Grey 9,000 miles	£7,450
05 (05)	RENAULT CLIO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE 5-Dr in Flame Red	DUE IN
05 (05)	FORD MONDEO 1.8 LX 5-dr. Nice condition	£1,500
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10 (10)	SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI FIRST EDITION Techno Orange	£13,450
08 (08)	KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI XS	£10,850
08 (08)	LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2 TD4 GS. Silver	£10,750
07 (07)	SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 1.6 VVTi+ 3-dr. Red	£8,750
07 (07)	KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI XS Crystal Blue	£4,850
06 (06)	LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2.0 TD4 FREESTYLE 3-dr	£5,850
05 (05)	LAND ROVER FREELANDER TD4 FREESTYLE SDR. Black	£4,850
03 (03)	LANDROVER FREELANDER TD4 SERENGETI	DUE IN

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12 (12)	VAUXHALL AGILA 1.2 SE Ottoman Blue	£7,450
08 (08)	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 CLUB 5-dr	DUE IN

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Motoring



Vauxhall Agila top of table

"It's good to see a British car manufacturer at the top of the table," said the national organisation which has named the Vauxhall Agila 'Europe's Most Reliable Car.'

Award-winning Vauxhall dealer Arthurs, with branches in Oswestry and Newtown, endorse the sentiment following the Agila's top of the table achievement in the latest research by

Warranty Directs Reliability Index Focus.

Steve Hughes, Arthurs group operations manager said: "The Index analyses vehicles which were on average five years old and with mileages of 50,000.

"That Agila is now Europe's most reliable car is very pleasing, but it is not a surprise as all Vauxhall models have dramatically improved in quality and performance over recent years."

Warranty Directs managing director

David Gerrans said: "This is a great result from the Vauxhall Agila, especially at a time when Britain's automotive industry is flying high.

"It's so good to see Vauxhall at the top of the table," he added.

Steve Hughes added: "We are finding the amount of warranty repairs which need to be carried out to be very low and much less than other manufacturers.

"The whole Vauxhall range has improved dramatically."

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14 Reg	Skoda Octavia, Elegance 5dr HBK 2.0 Diesel, FSH, 10819mils	£16,995

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12 Reg	Ford Ka, Edge 3dr HBK 1.2 Petrol, FSH, 20311mils, £30 RFL	£5,495
63 Reg	Ford Ka, Edge 3dr HBK 1.2 Petrol, FSH, 24159mils, £30 RFL	£5,795
12 Reg	Ford Fiesta Zetec 5dr HBK 1.4 Diesel, FSH, 14941mils	£8,295
64 Reg	Ford Fiesta Zetec EcoBoost 100PS 5dr HBK 1.0 Petrol, FSH, 3147mils, £0 RFL	£11,295
14 Reg	Ford Fiesta, Zetec 5dr HBK 1.25 Petrol, FSH, 9641mils, £30 RFL	£8,995
62 Reg	Ford Fiesta, Zetec 5dr HBK 1.4 Diesel, FSH, 53092mils	£7,295
12 Reg	Ford Fusion, Zetec Climate 5dr HBK 1.4 Petrol, FSH, 6836mils	£7,295
61 Reg	Ford Focus, Zetec 5dr EST 1.6 Petrol, FSH, 11834mils	£9,495
12 Reg	Land Rover Freelander, XS 5dr 4x4 2.2 Diesel, FSH, 25054mils	£18,995
12 Reg	Peugeot 207, Allure HDI 92 5dr HBK 1.6 Diesel, 40037mils	£6,495
12 Reg	Skoda Fabia, SE 5dr EST 1.6 Diesel, FSH, 35465mils, £20 RFL	£7,495
14 Reg	Skoda Yeti, SE DSG AUTO 5dr HBK 1.2 Petrol, FSH, 7739mils	£16,795
13 Reg	Toyota Yaris, SR 5dr HBK 1.3 Petrol, FSH, 18514mils	£8,295
12 Reg	Vauxhall Astra, SRi 5dr HBK 1.6 Petrol, 21764mils	£8,695
62 Reg	Volkswagen Polo, S 3dr HBK 1.2 Petrol, FSH, 2938mils	£7,295

JUST ARRIVED

14 Reg	Skoda Yeti, SE 5dr HBK 1.2 Petrol, FSH, 3160mils	£15,995
62 Reg	Ford Fiesta, Edge 3dr HBK 1.4 Petrol, FSH, 20866mils	£6,495
59 Reg	Ford Focus, ST3 3dr HBK 2.5 Petrol, 38509mils	£11,995
59 Reg	Ford Fusion, Titanium 5dr HBK 1.6 Petrol, FSH, 22483mils	£5,495
08 Reg	Ford Focus, Titanium 5dr EST 1.8 Diesel, FSH	£4,995
14 Reg	Skoda Rapid Spaceback 5dr HBK 1.2 Petrol, FSH, 8983mils	£8,795

FURROWS BIG SALE!

		WAS	SAVE	NOW
13 Reg	Ford Fiesta, Zetec 5dr HBK 1.25 Petrol, FSH, 13227mils, £30 RFL	£8,995	£500	£8,495
14 Reg	Ford Focus, Zetec 5dr HBK 1.6 Petrol, FSH, 28287mils	£9,995	£500	£9,495
60 Reg	Honda Jazz, ES S-A 5dr HBK 1.3 Petrol, FSH, 10550mils	£6,495	£300	£6,295
10 Reg	Honda Jazz, SI 5dr HBK 1.3 Petrol, FSH, 37258mils	£6,495	£300	£6,295
09 Reg	Kia Sorrento, XE AUTO 5dr 4x4 2.5 Diesel, FSH, 59092mils	£8,495	£500	£7,995
12 Reg	Skoda Yeti, SE 5dr HBK 1.2 Petrol, FSH, 23784mils	£13,495	£500	£12,995
13 Reg	Skoda Yeti, Elegance 170ps 4x4 5dr HBK 2.0 Diesel, FSH, 30375mils	£16,795	£300	£16,495
61 Reg	Vauxhall Astra, Excite 5dr HBK 1.7 Diesel, 21929mils, £30 RFL	£8,495	£300	£8,295

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CONDITION

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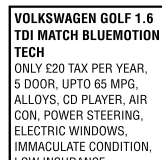
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TDI ESTATE TECH DSG**
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ALLOYS, CD PLAYER,
AIR CON, POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
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POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
LOW INSURANCE,
LOW TAX,
STILL UNDER SEAT
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EDGE**
ONLY £20 TAX PER YEAR,
UPTO 65 MPG, DIESEL,
6 SPEED DIESEL,
CD PLAYER, AIR CON,
POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
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ONLY £20 TAX PER YEAR,
CONVERTIBLE, ELECTRIC
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LEATHER, ONLY 9,000 MILES,
IPOD CONNECTION, LOW
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STILL UNDER FIAT WARRANTY
TILL 2017, IMMACULATE
CONDITION

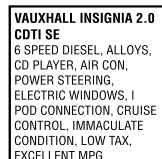
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ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
EXCELLENT MPG,
LOW INSURANCE,
IMMACULATE CONDITION

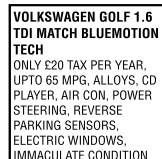
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CDTI SE**
6 SPEED DIESEL, ALLOYS,
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ELECTRIC WINDOWS, I
POD CONNECTION, CRUISE
CONTROL, IMMACULATE
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TDI MATCH BLUEMOTION
TECH**
ONLY £20 TAX PER YEAR,
UPTO 65 MPG, ALLOYS, CD
PLAYER, AIR CON, POWER
STEERING, REVERSE
PARKING SENSORS,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
IMMACULATE CONDITION

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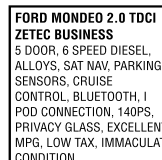
FORD KA 1.3 TDCI ZETEC
ONLY £20 TAX PER YEAR,
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3 DOOR, ALLOYS,
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POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
IMMACULATE CONDITION

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**CITROEN DS3 1.6 e-HDI
AIRDREAM DSTYLE**
** FREE TAX ** UPTO 65
MPG, LOW INSURANCE,
DIESEL, CD PLAYER,
AIR CON, POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
IMMACULATE
CONDITION

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**FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI
ZETEC BUSINESS**
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CONTROL, BLUETOOTH, I
POD CONNECTION, 140PS,
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CONDITION

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2007 07 AUDI TT 3.2 QUATTRO COUPE AUTO Black with Tan Leather, 19" Alloy Wheels, 43,000 miles, FSH **SOLD**



2006 06 GOLF GT TDI 140bhp 3-door. Manual, Metallic Black, 86,000 miles, FSH **£4999**



2013 63 FIAT 500L 1.6 Diesel. Bright Yellow, 18,000 miles, FSH **£9,999**



2012 12 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 4 HSE 3.0 TDV6 Auto. Black, 1 Owner, Top Spec, FSH, 28,000 miles. **£37,999**



2012 12 VW GOLF 1.6 TDI MATCH 5-door, Metallic Silver, Manual, 52,000 miles, FSH **SOLD**



2011 61 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 2.0 GTI 3-door, Red, One Owner, 36,000 miles, Alloy Wheels, FSH **£15,999**



2008 08 VOLVO V50 1.8 R-Design Manual, 94,000 miles, FSH, Metallic Black, full leather **£4999**



2006 06 AUDI RS4 SALOON Manual, Bright Red, Only 54,000 miles, FSH, Stunning Condition **£21,999**



2012 62 NISSAN NOTE 1.4 N-TEC 5-door. Manual, 5,000 miles, 1 owner, Metallic Blue, FSH **£7999**

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2012 12 MERCEDES C200 Diesel, Estate, Manual, 46,000 miles, 18in Alloy Wheels, Metallic Black **SOLD**



2015 15 PEUGEOT 308 1.6 HDI ACCESS 5-door. Only 600 miles, Only 2 Months Old **£11,499+VAT**



2008 08 TOYOTA RAV 4 XTR, 5-door, Manual, 4x4 Petrol, Metallic Grey, FSH, 74,000 miles **£6,499**



2008 08 LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2TD4 GS Manual, Metallic Black, FSH, 62,000 miles **£13,999**



2011 BMW 520D SE Auto. Metallic Grey, Beige Leather Interior, One Owner, Only 27,000 miles, FSH **£16,499**



2014 14 RENAULT CAPTOR 1.5 DCI. Metallic Red, One Owner, Free Road Tax, FSH, 15,000 miles **£11,999**



2010 10 JAGUAR XF LUXURY 3.0d Auto, Metallic Black, Grey Leather, 58,000 miles, 2 owners, FSH **£1399**



2012 12 BMW X1 SERIES 2.0d AUTOMATIC Metallic Bronze, 51,000 miles, 1 Owner, FSH **£13,999**



2011 11.BMW 320 D SALOON Manual, Blue Metallic, 1 owner, £20 a year road tax, FSH, 58,000 miles **£10,999**



2013 62 VW TIGUAN 4x4 2.0 TDI SE Manual, 1 owner, only 10,000 miles, FSH, Metallic Red **£17,499**

2007 07	AUDI TT 3.2 QUATTRO COUPE AUTO	Black with Tan Leather, 19" Alloy Wheels, 43,000 miles, FSH.....	SOLD
2006 06	AUDI RS4 SALOON	Manual, Bright Red, Only 54,000 miles, FSH, Stunning Condition	£21,999
2010 60	ALFA ROMEO 1.4 TURBO	3-door. Bright Red, 75,000 miles, Manual	£4,999
2007 57	BMW 520D M SPORT TOURING 2.0 Diesel.	Black with Black Leather, 18" Alloy Wheels, 63,000 miles.....	£9999
2011	BMW 520 D SE Auto.	Metallic Grey, Beige Leather, One Owner, only 27,000 miles, FSH.....	£16,499
2011 11	BMW 320 D Saloon	Manual. Blue Metallic, One Owner, 20.00 a Year Road Tax, FSH, 58,000 miles	£10,999
2012 12	BMW X1 SERIES 2.0d AUTOMATIC	Metallic Bronze, 51,000 miles, 1 Owner, FSH.....	£13,999
2011 11	CHEVROLET LACETTI ESTATE 1.8,	Automatic, 1 Owner.....	£4,999
2012 12	CITROEN C3 PICASSO VTR+	Metallic Green, 21,000 miles, FSH.....	£7,999
2012 61	CITROEN 1.0 VTR+	3-door, Red, 20,000 miles, A/C, Zero Road Tax	£4,999
2012 12	CITROEN DS3 1.6 VTI 'D' STYLE AUTO	Red with Black Roof and Mirrors, 16" Alloy Wheels, Cruise Control, 19,000 miles, One Owner, FSH	£8,699
2008 58	FIAT 500 LOUNGE 1.2	Pale Blue, Metallic, Manual, Pan Roof, 52,000 miles, FSH	£5,499
2013 63	FIAT 500L 1.6 Diesel,	Bright Yellow, 18,000 miles, FSH.....	£9,999
2003 03	FORD FOCUS 1.6 5-door.	Metallic Blue, 12 Months MOT, Just Serviced	£1,499
2012 61	FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCi ZETEC	5-door Manual. 56,000 miles, FSH, Black.....	£8,499
2012 62	FORD FIESTA 1.6 TDCi	5-door. Manual, White, Free Road Tax, 19,000 miles, One owner	£7,999
2009 59	FORD KA 1.3 ZETEC	3-door. Metallic Black, 52,000 miles.....	£4,499
2010 60	HYUNDAI 130 PREMIUM 1.6 CRDi	Estate Manual, Metallic Blue, 33,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH.....	£7,499
2010 10	JAGUAR XF LUXURY 3.0d	Auto, Metallic Black, Grey Leather, 58,000 miles, 2 owners, FSH	£13,999
2011 11	JAGUAR XF 3.0TD V6 AUTO	Luxury 4-door. Silver Metallic with Black Leather Heated Seats, Two Owners, 53,000 miles, FSH.....	£14,699
2012 12	LANDROVER DISCOVERY 4 HSE 3.0 TDV6	Auto. Black, 1 Owner, Top Spec, FSH, 28,000 miles.....	£36,499
2011 11	LANDROVER FREELANDER 2 XS 2.2 DIESEL	Sat Nav, Manual, 70,000 miles, Metallic Black, FSH	£14,999
2010 10	LANDROVER FREELANDER 2 XS 2.2 DIESEL	Sat Nav, White, 60,000 miles, FSH.....	£14,999
2008 08	LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2 TD4 GS	Manual. Metallic Black, FSH, 62,000 miles	£10,999
2007 07	MERCEDES A160 CDI CLASSIC	Manual. Metallic Blue, 37,000 miles, FSH.....	£4,999
2012 12	MERCEDES C200	Diesel, Estate, Manual, 46,000 miles, 18in Alloy Wheels, Metallic Black.....	SOLD
2011 60	MITSUBISHI LANCER 2.0 TDi HATCHBACK	Manual, Metallic Blue, 57,000 miles, FSH	£6,499
2011 60	MITSUBISHI LANCER EVO XGSR FQ300	Saloon. Blue Metallic, 20,900 miles, FSH.....	£18,999
2012 62	NISSAN NOTE 1.4 N-TEC	5-door. Manual, 5,000 miles, 1 owner, Metallic Blue, FSH	£7,999
2009 09	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 3-door,	Metallic Blue, 61,000 miles.....	£3,999
2012 12	PEUGEOT 3081.6 HDI ACCESS	5-door Manual. Metallic Grey, £30 a year Road Tax, 50,000 miles.....	£6,499
2015 15	PEUGEOT EXPERT HDi Diesel	Van. White, Side Loading Door, Only 600 miles, Only 2 Months Old	£ 11,499+VAT
2011 61	PEUGEOT BIPPER HDi Diesel	Van. Silver Metallic, Side Loading Door, One Owner, 49,800 miles	£4,999+VAT
2011 61	RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCi ESTATE	Tom Tom, Manual, Metallic Red, 40,000 miles, 1 Owner	£6,999
2008 08	RENAULT SCENIC AUTOMATIC 1.6 DYNAMIQUE	Metallic Grey, only 28,000 miles	£3,499
2012 12	SEAT ALTEA XL TDi	5-door. Grey Metallic, 15,000 miles, 6 Speed Box, Privacy Glass.....	SOLD
2010 10	SEAT IBIZA 1.6 SPORT DSG	3-door, Red, 62,000 miles	£5,999
2010 10	SEAT ALTEA XL 1.9 SE	Diesel Estate. Green Metallic, Privacy Glass, Roof Rails, Alloy Wheels, AC, 49,000 miles	£6,999
2008 58	SKODA OCTAVIA ELEGANCE 2.0	Diesel Automatic 5-door. Silver Metallic, 59,000 miles.....	£5999
2007 07	SKODA FABIA 1.2 CLASSIC	5-door. Black, 66,100 miles, FSH.....	£2,999
2003 53	SUZUKI JIMNY 1.3	3-Door, Soft Top, Black over Silver, 74,000 miles.....	£2,699
2008 08	TOYOTA RAV4 XTR	5-door Manual 4x4 Petrol. Metallic Grey, FSH, 74,000 miles	£6,499
2009 59	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 SRI	3-door Auto. Metallic Black, only 45,000 miles	SOLD
2011 11	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.7 CDTi	EXCLUSIVE 7 Seats, Metallic Grey, 31,000 miles FSH	£7,499
2008 08	VOLVO V50 1.8 R-DESIGN	Manual, 94,000 miles, FSH, Metallic Black, Full Leather	£4,999
2011 61	VW GOLF 2.0 GTI	3-door, Red, One Owner, 36,000 miles, Alloy Wheels, FSH	£15,999
2009 59	VW GOLF 1.4S	3-door. Manual, Metallic Silver, 55,000 miles, FSH	£6,499
2007 07	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF GTi 1.8T	3-door. Only 43,000 miles, Red, Manual, Stunning Car, FSH.....	£9,499
2010 60	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF GT TDi 140BHP	5-door Manual. Metallic Silver, FSH, 62,000 miles	£9,999
2013 62	VW TIGUAN 4x4 2.0 TDi SE	Manual, 1 owner, only 10,000 miles, FSH, Metallic Red	£17,499
2006 06	VW GOLF GT TDi 140bhp	3-door. Manual, Metallic Black, 86,000 miles, FSH	£4,999

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Premier League

	P	W	D	L	C/A	P
Newport	16	10	1	5	1	2292
Wem	16	8	3	3	2	2263
Reman Services	16	9	1	5	1	2252
Franklin	16	7	1	6	2	2251
St Georges	16	8	2	3	3	2328
Ludlow & S.S.	16	6	1	7	1	2193
Quatt	16	5	3	6	2	2188
Brosley	16	6	2	7	1	2185
Madeley	16	5	2	8	1	2161
Bomere Heath	16	4	0	11	1	2143
Church Aston	16	2	3	10	1	2135
Wroxeter Grove	16	2	3	10	1	2121

Division 1

	P	W	D	L	C/A	P
Albrighton	16	12	1	1	2	2292
Shelton	16	9	3	3	2	2276
Forton	16	9	3	3	2	2272
Aliscott	16	8	3	4	1	2244
Alberbury	16	8	0	7	1	2239
Knockin & Kinn	16	7	1	6	2	2225
Newtown	16	6	0	8	2	2212
Market Drayton	16	5	2	6	3	2176
Beacon	16	4	2	10	1	2174
Lilleshall	16	2	1	10	1	2166
Pontesbury	16	3	4	8	1	2148
Tiberton	16	3	1	11	1	2127

Division 2

	P	W	D	L	C/A	P
Conover	16	9	4	1	2	2281
Willow	16	7	4	3	2	2240
Ellesmere	16	8	3	5	0	2236
Wem	16	7	3	5	1	2232
Welshpool	16	6	3	4	2	2205
Montgomery	16	6	4	5	1	2204
Church Stretton	16	4	3	8	1	2165
Shrewsbury	16	4	2	9	1	2162
Bishops Castle	16	5	3	6	2	2158
Prees	16	4	1	9	2	2155
Cae Glas	16	2	1	10	1	2154
Much Wenlock	16	2	1	11	1	2135

Division 3

	P	W	D	L	C/A	P
Iscoyd & F.B.	16	9	4	1	2	2281
Shelton	16	7	3	5	1	2253
Wheaton Aston	16	6	5	3	2	2258
Shifnal	16	6	3	4	2	2234
Ludlow	16	7	2	5	2	2213
Worcester	16	6	1	8	1	2205
Ludlow & S.S. II	16	5	2	8	1	2188
Calverhall	16	4	1	8	3	2174
Corvedale	16	4	1	9	2	2166
Chelmarsh	16	4	1	9	2	2162
Wroxeter Grove III	16	3	5	7	1	2136
Harpers	16	1	5	8	2	2126

Division 4

	P	W	D	L	C/A	P
Trysil & Seisdon	15	8	5	1	1	2268
Hodnet & Peplow	15	9	4	0	2	2263
St Georges III	15	8	1	3	2	2310
Hinstock	15	7	1	4	3	2253
Harcourt	15	6	5	3	1	2198
Overton-on-Dee	15	5	4	6	0	2180
Acton Reynald	14	5	3	5	1	2179
Cotton Hall	14	4	1	7	2	2147
Beacon III	14	2	3	9	0	2197
Gulftiss	15	3	0	10	2	2084
Quatt III	15	3	0	10	2	2084

Division 4A

	P	W	D	L	C/A	P
Newport III	16	10	4	1	1	2302
Bomere Heath III	16	7	2	7	2	2254
Worfield	16	6	4	5	1	2254
Cound III	16	6	4	5	1	2233
Wem III	16	4	3	8	1	2232
Alberbury III	15	7	5	3	2	2207
Franklin III	15	6	1	8	2	2197
Wellington V	16	4	6	4	2	2189
Knockin & Kinn IV	16	4	7	4	1	2183
Reman Services III	16	2	2	11	2	2142
Whitchurch III	15	0	2	11	2	2112

Division 5

	P	W	D	L	C/A	P
Brighthorn III	16	15	0	1	0	2339
Quayside	16	13	1	2	0	2310
Pontesbury III	16	11	2	2	1	2252
Albrighton II	16	9	3	3	1	2248
Shrewsbury IV	16	8	3	4	1	2212
Ludlow & S.S. IV	16	6	3	4	2	2208
Acton Reynald II	15	6	1	6	2	2192
Corvedale II	16	4	3	8	1	2158
Lilleshall IV	16	4	3	8	1	2155
Knockin & Kinn V	16	4	2	7	2	2140
Much Wenlock II	16	2	4	9	1	2138
Dorridge	16	2	2	10	2	2134
Wellington VI	16	3	4	8	1	2132
Lilleshall III	16	2	6	6	2	2115
Aliscott III	16	2	4	9	1	2101
Madeley II	16	1	2	10	2	2091

Reserve Division 1

	P	W	D	L	C/A	P
Cound	16	10	2	3	1	2288
Ludlow & Sth Shrop	16	7	2	6	1	2249
Reman Services II	16	6	3	5	2	2236
Wem II	16	6	4	4	2	2243
Quatt	16	6	3	4	2	2235
Shelton	16	6	3	4	2	2219
St Georges	16	6	3	5	2	2219
Frankton	16	5	2	8	1	2195
Wellington	16	5	4	6	1	2185
Beacon	16	4	1	9	2	2178
Madeley	16	3	4	7	2	2157
Bomere Heath	16	2	2	11	1	2101

Reserve Division 2

	P	W	D	L	C/A	P
Knockin & Kinn	16	8	4	2	2	2274
Lilleshall	16	8	4	3	1	2270
Alberbury	16	8	2	4	2	2247
Wroxeter Grove	16	7	3	5	1	2228
Cae Glas	16	6	4	4	2	2190
Forton	16	4	4	4	2	2172
Shelton	16	4	2	8	2	2162
Pontesbury	16	3	6	6	1	2156
Welshpool	16	4	3	7	1	2151
Conover	16	4	4	6	2	2148
Aliscott	16	3	4	9	1	2132

Reserve Division 3

	P	W	D	L	C/A	P
Montgomery	16	10	2	2	2	2265
Brosley	16	9	2	3	2	2253
Ellesmere	16	8	2	3	2	2253
Iscoyd & F.B.	16	9	1	6	0	2226
Shifnal	16	7	3	5	1	2214
Oswestry	16	6	2	7	1	2207
Newtown	16	6	4	3	2	2207
Bishops Castle	16	3	2	10	1	2143
Tiberton	16	3	4	8	1	2139
St Georges	16	5	1	9	1	2132
Wroxeter Grove	16	2	1	10	1	2131

Birmingham & District Premier Cricket League

First Team Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Shrewsbury	16	10	1	3	0	2	2258
Beaconsfield	16	9	2	4	0	1	2258
Knockin & Kinn	16	8	1	6	0	1	2222
Walmley	16	8	2	5	0	1	2218
WB Darnmoor	16	7	2	5	0	1	2214
Omberton	16	7	2	5	0	1	2214
RAF Shawbury	16	7	2	6	0	1	2202
Kenilworth	16	6	0	8	0	1	2166
Barnt Green	16	6	0	8	0	1	2165
Dorridge	16	5	2	9	0	1	2136
W'ton	16	3	1	11	0	1	2114
Brockhampton	16	2	1	12	0	1	2112

East Shropshire Junior Cricket League

Under 15s

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Brighthorn	11	9	1	1	0	1	56
Worfield	11	6	4	1	0	1	45
Wellington	11	5	3	3	0	1	38

Under 13 Division A

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Brighthorn	11	9	1	1	0	1	56
Worfield	11	6	4	1	0	1	45
Wellington	11	5	3	3	0	1	38

Division One

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Walsall	16	11	1	0	3	0	2266
Old Hill	16	8	4	3	0	1	2238
Leam-ton Spa	16	9	0	5	0	1	2245
Smethwick	16	7	4	3	0	1	2230
Moseley	16	7	2	5	0	1	2213
Barnards Grn.	16	1	6	0	1	1	2205
Hinley	16	6	1	8	0	1	2196
Bromsgrove	16	5	3	6	0	1	2174
Attock	16	4	4	3	0	1	2158
Wellington	16	3	2	9	0	1	2144
Harborne	16	3	2	9	0	1	2136
Oswestry	16	3	1	10	0	1	2132

Division Two

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Brighthorn	16	12	0	2	0	1	306
Sutton C'field	16	10	3	2	0	1	2281
Penkridge	16	9	1	5	0	1	2223
Tamworth	16	7	5	3	0	1	2219
Shifnal	16	7	4	3	0	1	2203
Coventry/NW	16	6	4	4	0	1	2198
O Elizabethans	16	5	5	6	0	1	2187
Elizabethtown	16	4	5	6	0	1	2184
Wombourne	16	3	6	0	1	1	2149
Brewod	16	3	4	9	0	1	2128
Stourbridge	16	2	5	8	0	1	2126
Easton	16	1	9	0	1	1	2102

Division Three

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
C & R Hawks	16	12	0	2	0	2	2277
Stord-u-Avon	16	10	2	3	0	1	2264
Edgworth	16	8	3	4	0	1	2244
Pelsall	16	8	1	6	0	1	2213
Aston Manor	16	7	1	7	0	1	2209
Streety	16	1	6	0	2	2	2202
Wolverhampton	16	1	6	0	2	2	2202
Worfield	16	6	0	9	0	1	2176
Whitchurch	16	6	0	9	0	1	2172
Ashted Wood	16	1	8	0	1	1	2156
Water Orton	16	1	8	0	1	1	2133
Kings Heath	16	2	2	10	0	1	2127

Second Teams

Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Walmley	16	10	2	3	0	1	2250
Leam-ton Spa	16	7	4	3	0	1	2246
Moseley	16	7	3	4	0	1	2238
W'm	16	6	4	4	0	1	2230
Kinderminster	16	7	3	4	0	1	2202
WB Darnmoor	16	6	5	3	0	1	2200
Knockin & Kinn	16	6	1	7	0	1	2189
Knockin & Kinn	16	5	2	8	0	1	2188
Harborne	16	4	3	8	0	1	2158
Hinley	16	4	3	8	0	1	2146
Chelmarsh	16	4	2	9	0	1	2133
Barn Green	16	3	1	11	0	1	2117

Division One

	P	W	D
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Gray day as Knockin cruise past finish line

OPENER Steven Gray hit a majestic century as Knockin & Kinnerley produced the near perfect all round display by thrashing Lilleshall by 260 runs in the Shropshire League division one.

The prolific batsman cracked 164 to help Knockin to a mammoth 320-6 in 50 overs as Lilleshall's bowling wilted in the sun, Gary Darlington providing the next highest contribution with 36, forming a 107-run stand for the fourth wicket.

Hugh Morris then picked up 5-21 off 11 overs as Lilleshall crumbled to 60 all out, Ashley Sokaloo also continuing his good form with 4-12.

KNOCKIN & KINNERLEY II are four points clear at the top of the reserve division two after their five wicket win at Lilleshall II.

Andy Bate's undefeated 110 had carried Lilleshall to a challenging 252-5 in 45 overs, Julian Gallimore taking 2-47 from 15 overs.

Target

But Knockin were up for the chase with openers Mark Blount (51) and Dave Jones (42) setting the platform, before Martin Ford (50) and Marcus Williams (33no) helped them to their target with 16 balls left.

Knockin & Kinnerley IV had a losing daw against Corvedale II in division five, being restricted to 135-7 in response to 284 all out.

The Knockin bowlers were put to the sword as Dale's Harry Fiaz cracked a whirlwind 153 in just 78 deliveries, containing 13 sixes and 13 other boundaries. Thomas Dix was the pick of the bowlers with 4-58 while there were also four victims for Floyd Owen.

Andrew Pritchard (46) and Dix (33) top scored to at least ensure a draw for Knockin in reply despite Fiaz's 5-31.

Parry's ton proves crucial for Frankton

FRANKTON maintained their challenge in the Shropshire Cricket League division one after inflicting a crushing 136-run defeat on Madeley.

Jordan Parry's fine unbeaten 101, with two sixes and 12 fours, helped propel second placed Frankton to an imposing 250-6 in 50 overs after a shaky start that saw them languishing on 12-3.

Jacob Northwood weighed in with an unbeaten 56 and Alex Owen 54, with Martin Boyle (3-65) the pick of the home attack.

Madeley put up little resistance in reply, being sent back for 114 with Stuart Lammie bagging 5-42 and Harry Stow 3-11.

It was also a good day for **FRANKTON II** who stormed to an 82 run victory over Madeley II in the reserve division one.

Andrew Main's 53 helped Frankton to 152 all out before Mark Lammie claimed 6-16 to skittle the visitors for just 70 in reply, Jack Kelly also taking 3-20.

FRANKTON III were five wicket winners over Couand II in division four A, successfully chasing a target of 168 in the 32nd over to claim 20 points.

Fun Hockey at Welshpool

WELSHPOOL & District Hockey Club Juniors section will stage a Fun Day next month to promote the game for youngsters.

The fun day takes place on Thursday, August 27 from 10-2pm and both boys and girls aged between 5-16-years-old will get a chance to play the game at The Flash in a fun and exciting way.

The cost is £10 per session with a sibling discount available.

For further information call Cerys Bills on 07807 076474 or email Julie Griffith on juliegriffith@outlook.com

Watch out! Golf ace Postle hits ace

AN Oswestry golfer will have no excuse for missing his next tee-time after winning a limited-edition BOSS watch for achieving a hole-in-one.

John Postle, 70, scored his ace on the 184-yard, par-three 13th at Henlle GC, and the 13-handicap-er was rewarded with membership of the exclusive BOSS Watches H1Club and a specially-commissioned, commemorative timepiece.

The luxury German brand has rewards club golfers with an exclusive watch for every hole-in-one recorded during a club competition in 2015, after giving away more than £1m-worth of limited-edition timepieces since its launch in 2013 - and Postle is among the latest to achieve the feat this year.

The scheme is open to any golfer whose club uses

HowDidiDo - a free-to-use, web-based social network for golfers - and anybody playing in official club competitions is eligible. Currently, more than 1,800 clubs use the website.

Stephen Brydon, commercial director for MGS Distribution, the official licenced UK distributor for BOSS Watches, said: "Well done to John for accomplishing one of golf's most elusive feats.

"For most amateur golfers, a hole-in-one is as memorable as winning The Masters would be to a professional. We want to ensure they have something tangible by which to remember the day, other than an expensive bar bill.

"The limited-edition BOSS timepiece is exclusively available to golfers who achieve a hole-in-one;

it not only immortalises a once-in-a-lifetime feat, but also serves as a memento of their achievement.

"We also hope it might lift the spirits of amateur golfers during club competitions who may not be in with a chance of winning the event, but can still feel excitement every time they play a par-three, knowing they are just one shot away from winning an exquisite timepiece."

In addition to the limited-edition watch, Postle joins more than 7,000 members in the BOSS Watches H1Club which offers access to exclusive benefits and merchandise. All official club competitions are recorded on the HowDidiDo system, so holes-in-one are noted and automatically ratified by the golfer's club.

Brothers both hit tons for club record

CRICKET by John Bridgwater

A REMARKABLE feat was set as Steve and Darron Humphreys wrote a new chapter in Oswestry CC's record books by becoming the first brothers to both score league centuries for the club in one weekend.

Steve cracked 106 for Oswestry's second string at Smethwick on Saturday, to take the side to within one point of the lead in division two north of the Birmingham League 2nd XI competition.

And Steve was at Morda Road on Sunday to see Darron keep it in the family by hitting 102 for Oswestry IV in a high-scoring and highly entertaining draw against Ellesmere II.

"It was certainly a great weekend for the family," said Steve. "I really enjoyed my knock on Saturday, and I must admit Darron never really looked like getting out on a lovely wicket at Morda Road on Sunday."

Steve and Darron's late father Don was the first man ever to score 1,000 runs in a season for Oswestry.

Steve's innings provided the backbone for Oswestry II's successful run chase at Smethwick.

The home side had made 214-6 in a game reduced to 45 overs a side, with skipper Josh Coleridge (3-50) and Xavie Clarke (2-54) the most successful Oswestry bowlers. The visitors lost two early wickets in reply before Coleridge (23) and Humphreys took the score past 50.

Callum Morris then added 47, and although he and Humphreys were both out shortly before the target was reached, there were still six overs left when Oswestry got to 215-6.

Sunday's game in the Shropshire League reserve division three was a veritable run feast.

Iwan Roberts got the Oswestry innings off to a blistering start with a quickfire 40, and Darron Humphreys also got good support from Max Payne (33) and James Bradbury (26) as the innings closed on 272-6.

Bradley Chapman took 6-75 in a fine spell of slow left arm bowling.

Ellesmere also had a centurion as they made a bold bid for victory with. Tom Davies unbeaten on 106 when the visitors' innings closed just 14 short of victory on 259-7.

Will Baker made 42, Nigel Davies 34 and Troy Newton 28, with Iwan Roberts and Connor Roberts picking up two wickets apiece for Oswestry.

■ Oswestry failed by the narrowest of margins to retain the Salop Leisure T20 title in a closely fought final at Shrewsbury.

Shrewsbury needed two off the last ball bowled by Oswestry skipper Jonathan Miles - and just managed to scramble them, for a three-wicket win. Victory had seemed a long way off for the Morda Road men when they were bowled out for 117.

Oswestry win – but go bottom



Jonathan Miles hit a defiant unbeaten 42 to help Oswestry to a draw against Smethwick

OSWESTRY ended a run of five successive defeats when they held out for a losing draw against Smethwick at Morda Road - but they still slipped to the bottom of the Birmingham League Division One table, writes **JOHN BRIDGWATER**.

The result means this Saturday's home clash with Shropshire rivals Wellington is of vital importance, as the visitors are the side just above Oswestry in the league.

Batsmen were always going to have the upper hand in the game against Smethwick, who piled up a mammoth 341-5 after electing to bat.

Opener Navdeep Poonia led the way with 109 and IPL star Amito Singh hit a superb 66 before falling to a spectacular catch

by Oswestry skipper Jonathan Miles. Warrick Fynn bowled well, although his figures of 3-79 didn't do him justice.

Oswestry lost three quick wickets in reply, as Fynn, Michael Johnson and Alex Huxley all fell to ex-Lancashire paceman Naqash Tahir.

Changes

With victory now out of the question, Oswestry elected to get some batting practice and Robbie Clarke (88no) and Alun Morris (39) put on 76 for the fourth wicket.

Miles (42no) then teamed up with Clarke in an unbroken stand of 106 to see Oswestry through to 217-4 at the close.

An Oswestry thirds team which showed 10 changes from the pre-

vious week were well beaten at Chelmarsh in Division Three of the Shropshire League.

Only skipper Richard Jones, the sole survivor from the last game, put up much resistance as Oswestry were bowled out for 93. Jones hit six fours and two sixes in a breezy 37.

Chelmarsh had little trouble reaching 94-3 in just 13.2 overs in reply, with youngster Mattie Davies taking 2-8.

■ With Oswestry facing that key clash with Wellington on Saturday (12 noon), the Seconds look to boost their title challenge with a trip to C and R Hawks.

The thirds are away to Corvedale, while the fourths take on Tibberton Seconds at Morda Road on Sunday (1.30).

Shropshire League cricket at weekend

Saturday

Premier League: Broseley v Wroxeter Grove; Wern v Quatt; Reman Services v Couand; Frankton v Ludlow & South Shropshire; Newport v St Georges; Madeley v Bomere Heath

Division One: Lilleshall v Beacon; Albrighton v Allscott; Newtown v Alberbury; Tibberton v Shelton; Forton v Knockin & Kinnerley; Market Drayton v Pontesbury

Division Two: Wellington III v Montgomery; Conder v Bishops Castle; Willey v Ellesmere; Welshpool v Much Wenlock; Prees v Church Stretton; Cae Glas v Shrewsbury II

Division Three: Wheaton Aston v Church Aston; Wroxeter Grove III v Ludlow & S S III; Harpers v Chelmarsh; Corvedale v Oswestry III; Shifnal III v Llanidloes; Calverhall v Iscoyd & F B

Division Four: Beacon III v Trysuli & Seisdon; Hinstock v Harcourt; Acton Reynald v Overton-on-Dee; Quatt III v Gulsfield; Coton Hall v St Georges III

Division Five: Ludlow & S S IV v Lilleshall IV; Lilleshall III v Allscott II; Bridgnorth III v Quayside; Much Wenlock II v Albrighton II; Shrewsbury IV v Acton Reynald II

Reserves Division One: Beacon II v Wellington IV; Bomere Heath II v Madeley II; Couand II v Reman Services II; St Georges II v Newport II; Quatt II v Wern II; Ludlow & South Shropshire II v Frankton II

Reserve Division Two: Wroxeter Grove II v Lilleshall II; Allscott II v Conder II; Alberbury II v Willey II; Shelton II v Welshpool II; Knockin & Kinnerley II v Forton II; Pontesbury II v Cae Glas II

Reserve Division Three: Montgomery II v Broseley II; Bishop's Castle II v Wroxeter Grove IV; Ellesmere II v Newtown II; St Georges IV v Shifnal IV; Iscoyd & Fenns Bank II v Market Drayton II

Sunday

Division Four A: Alberbury III v Madeley III; Bomere Heath III v Reman Services III; Wern III v Frankton III; Newport III v Couand III; Wellington V v Whitchurch III; Knockin & Kinn III v Worfield III

Division Five: Pontesbury III v Wellington VI; Llanidloes II v Knockin & Kinn IV; Madeley IV v Corvedale II

Reserve Division Three: Oswestry IV v Tibberton II

Coles fastest for Paragon in time trial

AFTER the rain of the previous week, the sun came out and 30 riders took to the line for round 14 of the Oswestry Paragon CC evening 10 series.

Quickest rider on the night was Gary Duncan of Paramount CRT who is making a successful return to time trialling after an absence of several years.

Duncan crossed the line in 22mins 15secs, exactly one minute ahead of Andrew Howell of Oswestry Peloton. Ian Coe of Hafren CC took third place in 23.32 with Neil Coles quickest of the Oswestry Paragon riders in 23.36.

Fastest of the four ladies taking part was another Paramount rider Ceris Salava who clocked 25.42 with newcomer Lucy Davies second in 29.55. Paragon rider Adam Riley rounded off the top 10 with a time of 25.46.

In the battle for Paragon points, it was Robert Rees who came out on top with a time of 26.28, one second ahead of Steve Davies with Justin Walsh just behind (26.41).

Two junior riders made their debuts in Paragon colours with Osain Morris finishing in 31.38, and Daniel Dovaston (34.18).

McNamee is at Abermule

FORMER Welshpool boss Clive McNamee is back in management after taking over the helm of Spar Mid Wales League division two side Abermule.

McNamee is one of the local game's most experienced managers with success at Welshpool Town and Montgomery, before having a spell in charge of Llanidloes Town.

McNamee will be assisted by club committee members and took control of the side after the opening weekend's 3-1 defeat against Borth.

"Clive brings a wealth of local football knowledge and experience," said a club statement. "It has been a difficult summer but the arrival of such an experienced football man such as Clive has given the club a real boost ahead of the campaign."

The golf returns from your local club

Henlle Park

Medal Division 1: S McCarthy nett 65; S Baran nett 66; T Meehan, Williams nett 70; K Ellis nett 52; D Egeron Williams nett 70; P Davies nett 71.

Nine Hole Comp: P Jones 22pts; P Price 21pts; J M Evans 20pts (c/b).

Ladies – Texas Scramble: V Davies, D Nicol & A Tonley 73pts; B Aubrey, K Evans & S Sims 76.6pts.

Seniors – Captain's Trophy Medal Division 1: C Clarke nett 68 (c/b); A Hardy nett 68; C Vennall nett 68. Division 2: S Jarvis nett 66; A Dickinson nett 72; G Bellis nett 74.

Club Competition: Wrexham 7.5 Henlle Park 2.5.

Oswestry

Medal Division 1: S Probert 74-5=69 (c/b); G Jones 79-10=69 (c/b); J Harris 78-9=69; G Evans 71-1=70; J Lawes 77-5=72 (c/b); N Jones (83) 82-10=72 (c/b). Division 2: W Woodward 80-1=89; L Turner 82-11=71 (c/b); R Williams 83-12=71 (c/b); K Jones 82-11=71; Thompson 83-11=72 (c/b); R Pell 83-11=72. Division 3: J Mclean 87-19=88; T Edgerton 98-28=70 (c/b); D Kershaw 90-20=70; A Jones (1894) 90-19=71; R Matthews 91-19=72 (c/b); R Pickles 88-16=72. Best Gross: G Evans 71.

Men's Invitation Four-ball Better-Ball Stableford: R Roberts & A Pickles (Arcscott) 46pts; I Pearce & C Male (Shrewsbury) 44pts; W Rowley & S Cook (Portad) 42pts (c/b); M Hughes & I Jones (Llanymynech) 41pts (c/b); A Jones & T Kendall (Henlle) 41pts.

Ladies – Invitation AM-AM Stableford: M Green, P Murfin, J Jones, D Chadwick 88pts; M Hughes, R Morris, M Baines, B Spering 88pts; A Barker, M Shakeshaft, J Adams, J Simcock 83pts.

The Brow

Midweek Stableford: P Barker 43 pts; K Abbott 38; B Sturtard 36; L Carter 34; G Gregory 34.

August Medal Winner: K Abbott 80-20=60. Best Gross: M Clark 78.

Division 1: T Williams 77-15=62; G Gregory 76-13=63. **Division 2:** D Talbot 85-24=61; J Williams 83-20=63.

Llanfair miss out on trophy in League Cup

LLANFAIR United's hopes of a pre-season boost were dashed after losing 3-1 at Penrhyncoch in the Spar Mid Wales League Cup final.

The league champions start life in the Cymru Alliance at Buckley Town on Saturday, but, despite the defeat at Cae Baker, could take heart from being given a good run out against a well organised Penrhyn side.

With a trophy up for grabs, it was a competitive affair, and it was the hosts who lifted the silverware with Jonathan Evans scoring twice, one from the penalty spot.

Josh Shaw added a third with a well-taken strike before Joe Vaughan added an injury time consolation for Rhys Stephens' men.

GUILSFIELD put up an encouraging display before slipping to a 3-1 friendly defeat away to Welsh Premier side Newtown at Latham Park.

Newtown went into the game on the back of a successful Europa League campaign and looked the part as they took the lead through Matt Hearsay.

However, Jack Harris levelled for the visiting Guils who - managed by striker Danny Barton this season - open their Cymru Alliance season on Saturday away to Denbigh Town.

Neil Mitchell made it 2-1 for the Robins before the break and Matty Owen struck a super effort in off the bar late on to seal the win.

On the Ball for summer sport camp

PARENTS seeking energetic entertainment for their children during the summer holidays may have to act quickly.

Ball Sports Community Coaching is running sports camps at Oswestry School and Market Drayton Cricket Club throughout the school holidays - and managers say they have had a huge amount of interest.

"The summer holiday sports sessions are proving to be phenomenally popular," said Neil Prescott, joint managing director of Ball Sports.

Sessions will take place at Oswestry School and Market Drayton Cricket Club almost every day throughout the school holidays until September 4.

For more details visit the website at www.ballsportscoaching.co.uk or call 01952 455510.

TNS goal fest – Reed all about it

Denbigh Town 0 The New Saints 8

JAMIE Reed bagged a first half hat-trick as The New Saints proved too hot for Denbigh Town after firing eight goals past their Cymru Alliance hosts in a friendly at Central Park, writes **JOHN BRIDGWATER**.

As they continue their pre-season, striker Reed made the most of his opportunity after being an unused substitute during all four of TNS' games in the UEFA Champions League.

The Welsh Premier champions dominated throughout, and were soon on the attack as Adrian Cieslewicz shot just wide from the edge of the box after latching onto Alex Darlington's pass.

Cieslewicz, the Polish winger, made no mistake in the 12th minute when slotting in from six yards after Denbigh had failed to clear a Scott Quigley cross.

And the goals continued to flow with Reed opening his account with a terrific volley just a minute later before heading in a second from Quigley's cross mid-way through the first half.

The marksman then completed his hat-trick five minutes before the interval by coolly finding the bottom corner from just inside the box.

A minute later Quigley crashed home the fifth goal before Darlington fired another to make it 6-0 at the interval

With TNS ringing the changes after the break,

substitute Nash Mwamuka then added a seventh goal before Ryan Kershaw hammered in a 25 yard free kick to complete the scoring.

Since their Champions League exploits, the Saints have had three friendlies, losing 3-2 at Caernarfon, drawing 0-0 with Cliftonville before sweeping aside Denbigh 8-0.

TNS start the defence of their title on Saturday, August 22 with a trip to newly promoted Haverfordwest.

Meanwhile, Videoton, conquerors of TNS in the second round of the Champions League, bowed out with a 1-0 (2-1) aggregate exit at Belarus side Bata Borisov in the third qualifying round tie.

Four-star Llan start season in fine style

FOOTBALL by John Bridgnorth

LLANRHAEADR sounded an early warning in this season's Spar Mid Wales League division one with a 4-2 opening day victory at home to Machynlleth.

One of the sides fancied to challenge for the title, Llan were soon in their stride as the chances flowed and eventually made the breakthrough courtesy of Tom Evans.

Wayne Austin, a new arrival from Llansantffraid, added a second with a long range effort from the left for a two-goal interval lead.

Mach pulled one back following a scramble, but there was no way back once Iwan Matthews made it three before another new signing, Chris Aitken, extended the lead further before the visitors gained a consolation from the penalty spot.

WATERLOO ROVERS got off to a winning start after prevailing 1-0 at newly promoted Hay St Mary's, while it was also a good day for Powys rivals MONTGOMERY who were 3-1 winners at Tywyn Bryncrug.

Andy Evans scored twice as Carno saw off Bow Street 3-1 at home, Jordan Jones also finding the net.

The visitors, who took the lead through Dean Evans, finished with 10 men after having Liam Jaques sent off.

Good crowd

It was a disappointing start for Llanidloes Town who, on their return to the league from the Cymru Alliance, went down 3-2 at home to Knighton Town in front of a good crowd at Victoria Avenue.

New signings Elliot Jones and sub Ricky Litchfield twice levelled for the Daffs who had Barry Haralambous sent off for two bookings on the hour.

But the visitors, who led through Connor Bird and Oliver Richards, took the spoils when ex-Llani midfielder Gareth Mansell sunk his old club from the penalty spot after Matthew Savage had fouled in the box.

Karl Selicarts scored on his return to BEREWIE in division two but his side could only manage a 1-1 draw at home to Bettws despite several good chances. Barry Bellis netted a leveller for the visitors.

Two goals from Dave Thomas secured a 2-0 opening night victory for Builth Wells at Presteigne.

DYFRYNN BANW opened with a 4-0 beating of Penybont, while Kerry were the day's biggest scorers as they swamped Newbridge



Ryan Evans (right) on the ball for Waterloo Rovers as he looks to shake of the attentions of Hay St Mary's defender Sam Bradley. It was a good day for Rovers who opened the season with a 1-0 win in which Scott Holley got the only goal of the game. Picture: Stuart Townsend.

9-0. Abermule went down 3-1 at home to Borth United.

♦♦♦♦

HONOURS were even as St Martins opened their season in the West Midlands League division one with a 1-1 draw at home to Wednesfield.

The Saints would reflect they had enough chances to have made it a winning start, hitting the woodwork no fewer than three times in the encounter at Park Hall.

Dan Graham headed them in front from a Shawn Melusi corner on 20 minutes, before Jamie Hands had a shot deflected onto the post via a defender.

Mike Lloyd became the second player to be denied when heading against the post, while a string

of fine saves from the impressive visiting keeper kept the Saints at bay.

Wednesfield, stepping down from the premier division this season, hit back five minutes before the break when Mark Morgan released Simeon Ritchie to outpace the defence to score.

After the break, the visitors enjoyed plenty of the play only to be frustrated by a solid home defence.

However, St Martins - who visit Trysul on Saturday - finished strongly with another effort hitting the woodwork.

FC OSWESTRY TOWN will be hoping to make a positive start when they launch their campaign in the Mercian Regional League premier division at home to Broseley on Saturday.

Fox brush rivals aside to move clear

BOWLS by John Bridgwater

the top of division three after sweeping aside lowly **WESTON RHYN C** 9-1 (163-104), Brian Sinker taking the coppers 21-8.

Closest match in the division saw **BLACK LION** finish 5-5 with Whittington E who shaded the aggregate by three shots (140-137) to earn parity.

Chris Lloyd was best for Lion by winning to eight while Pete Humber was a 21-6 victor in response

IFTON, runaway leaders of division six, marched on with a 9-1 (100 shots) hammering of **LLANRHAEADR E**, Oliver Jones one of six single figure winners with his 21-1 verdict.

Results

Division three: Johnstown C 9 (158) Bersham 1 (118), Royston A 3 (146) Johnstown D 7 (153),

Ceiriog Valley B 4 (112) Plas Kynaston A 6 (138), Whittington B 9 (163) Weston Rhyn C 1 (104), Black Lion 5 (137) Whittington E 5 (140)

Division four: Fox Lane 9 (164) Flexsys B 1 (79), Llanrhaeadr C 7 (139) Overton B 3 (126), Plas Kynaston B 3 (117) Ceiriog Valley C 7 (130), Llanfyllin A 3 (120) Llangynog C 7 (152), Llangollen B 8 (149) Llanymynech B 2 (107).

Division five: Ye Olde Crofte B 6 (140) Llanrhaeadr D 9 (166) Royston B 1 (105), Weston Rhyn B 7 (145) Whittington C 3 (107), Church D 8 (141) Chirk C 4 (133), Corwen B 4 (133) Cynwyd B 6 (145), Ye Old Crofte B 6 (140) Llanrhaeadr B 4 (128).

Division six: Ifton 9 (164) Llanrhaeadr E 1 (64), Llanymynech C 9 (165) Church E 1 (102), Whittington D 9 (163) Criffrins D 1 (94), Cynwyd C 6 (147) Llangynog B 4 (141), Llanfyllin B 9 (166) Weston Rhyn D 1 (123)

Crucial win puts safety in sight for Whittington

WHITTINGTON A seem certain to preserve their status in division one of the Oswestry and District Bowling League after a 7-3 victory at rock-bottom Cynwyd A.

The 25-shot victory (154-129) means they are 18 points clear of the basement spots with four matches left. Aled Davies and Mel Morris both won to 10, while Julian Turner prevailed 21-12.

CRIFTINS A kept the leaders in sight with a 8-2 (159-126) home success against rivals Ruabon A. Andrew Jones leading the way 21-3. The Dudleston Heath side are fifth, 11 points off the pace.

CHURCH A swept aside Llangollen A 9-1 (161-112) to cement their top six position, Ade Humphreys (21-4) leading the charge.

Second-placed Johnstown A stepped up their title push with a 9-1 (160-99) hammering of Corwen A and are now only a point behind leaders Ceiriog Valley A who won 7-3 (28 shots) at Overton A.

In the night's other action, Chirk A saw off Flexsys A 7-3 (146-99).

WESTON RHYN A look good for promotion from division two after a 6-4 (149-116) home verdict against CRIFTINS B put them 12 points clear in second spot. Gerry Owen marked his call-up with a 21-12 victory while Derek Taylor and skipper Brian Oakley won to two and five respectively. Dave Poole (21-14) was the best rep.

CHURCH B went down 7-3 (152-119) at Llangynog A, mother and son Pam (21-17) and Paul Milner (21-14) leading their replies and Merv Weaver winning 21-16 from 2-2 down.

LLANRHAEADR's promotion chances receded after they were beaten 8-2 (159-126) at LLAN- YMYNECH A. In-form Paula Worden (21-8) and Roger Candlin (21-11) led the way for Llany, with Juliet Brown (21-13) and Steve Jones (21-20) replying.

YE OLDE CROFTE A slumped 8-2 (149-126) at home to leaders Johnstown B, their consolations coming through Gareth Parry and Paul Edwards. ELLESMERE B were 6-4 (19 shots) winners against their own A team.

Fixtures, Tuesday August 18, Division One: Corwen A v Llangollen A, Flexsys A v Church A, Ruabon A v Cynwyd A, Whittington A v Criffrins A, Ceiriog Valley A v Johnstown A, Chirk A v Overton A. **Division Two:** Llanrhaeadr A v George, Johnstown B v Criffrins C, Criffrins B v Llangynog A, Church B v Weston Rhyn A, Ellesmere A v Llanymynech A, Ye Olde Crofte A v Ellesmere B.

On-a-roll Ifton move up to fourth

IFTON stormed up to fourth place in the Flowfit Shropshire Premier Bowls League with two commanding victories.

First up, the St Martins side ran out impressive 10-4 (218-214) winners at Archibald Worthington before following it up with a 12-2 (242-187) home romp against Sir John Bayley.

And with a trip to Wrockwade Wood on Friday, Dicky Jones' side will be out to continue to good work as they look to challenge for third spot.

Megis Phillips bagged the best result in the win against Sir John Bayley with his 21-8 verdict, while Dave Bond was the most valuable player with his 21-16 success against Chris Ward in the game of the night.

Geraint Williams won 21-10. Nicky Jones and Keiron Roberts 21-11, while skipper Dicky Jones took his game to 16.

Darren Lacey and Leighton Roberts both won to 17, Richard Zolman to 19 while the closed game saw Brian Hayes edge home 21-20.

Against Archibald Worthington, Kevin Nicholas notched the best result with his 21-12 win over John Digby while Carl Roberts was the most valuable player for his 21-13 success against Greg Fordham.

Brian Hayes won to 14 and Keiron Roberts to 16, and Nicky Jones and Dave Bond both to 18.

Geraint Williams was a narrow 21-19 winner and Dicky Jones won by just one shot 21-20.

Sport

Football
Four-star Llan get
super start – P47

Cricket
Brothers both hit
centuries – P46



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High noon shootout at Oswestry

OSWESTRY'S cricketers face a crucial home clash with Shropshire rivals Wellington on Saturday (noon) in their battle for Birmingham League division one survival.

Having slipped to the foot of the table, the Morda Road men know that defeat against a side two places above would leave them with their backs to the wall in the remaining five games.

They go into the encounter in better spirits after ending a five-match run of defeats with a losing draw against promotion-chasing Smethwick.

But Wellington will also be in buoyant mood after skittling fellow strugglers Harborne for just 55 last weekend on the way to a 119-run victory to boost their own hopes of survival.

"Although we're now bottom, Wellington winning was a decent result for us as Harborne would have opened up a big gap had they won," said chairman Mike Robinson.

"As it is, we're still in touching distance, and the pleasing thing was that we showed a lot of backbone to stop the rot last week."

Oswestry will be chasing a double after winning by three wickets at Wellington earlier in the season, when Warrick Fynn produced a sensational one-man show in taking eight wickets and hitting 97 not out.

Captain Mark Robinson returns to lead the side after missing the last two outings, while it is hoped that Worcestershire – who have no game – may release Joe Clarke and seamer Jack Shanley.

The Morda Road men showed grit in ending their losing streak against Smethwick, who made the most of a terrific wicket to rattle up a mammoth 341-5 as opener Navdeep Poonia made 109.

Oswestry lost three quick wickets into former Lancashire paceman Nagaash Tahir in reply.

But Robbie Clarke (88no), Alun Morris (39) and Jonathan Miles (42no) took their side through to 217-4 at the close to ensure a draw.

Glas sliding closer to the drop zone

CAE GLAS are facing a major battle to retain their place in the Shropshire League division two.

A seven-wicket defeat to Welshpool at Gatacre has left them third from bottom, just 13 points clear of the drop zone. They host Shrewsbury III on Saturday as they bid to ease their basement fears.

The Glas struggled after being put in on a slow pitch despite Ben Hikkiss' 52. They closed on 135-6.

Tight bowling curbed the Welshpool reply, but a fine unbeaten 65 by skipper Paul Chapman saw the visitors home for 20 points, Glas collecting just three.

Welshpool look to consolidate their top six position when they host lowly Much Wenlock on Saturday, while MONTGOMERY travel to Wellington III.

Promotion contenders ELLESMERE visit Willey, one place above. In the premier division fourth-placed FRANKTON host Ludlow. KNOCKIN & KINNERLEY, who beat Lilleshall by 260 runs in division one last week, go to Forton.

Saints do well against Liverpool stars

FOOTBALL by John Bridgewater

THE NEW SAINTS faced a star-laden Liverpool side as the Welsh Premier champions stepped up their pre-season preparations.

Craig Harrison's men were invited for a behind closed doors friendly with the Premier League giants at Liverpool's Melwood training ground.

And with Reds boss Brendan Rogers keen to give game time to players who did not feature heavily in the 1-0 victory at Stoke City the day before, the Saints came up against a side brimming with international talent.

New signing, Brazilian Robert Firmino, scored a hat-trick as Liverpool ran out 5-1 winners, another newcomer Danny Ings notching a penalty

with winger Lazar Markovic getting the other goal.

But the Saints were not overawed, and a fine strike from Chris Seargeant put them on level terms in a creditable display.

Midfielder Lucas Leiva and French defender Mamadou Sakho returned to the Liverpool line-up which also included youngster Jordan Rossiter, other new signings in goalkeeper Adam Bogdan and Divock Origi, plus Alberto Moreno, Kolo Toure and Emre Can.

Meanwhile, midfielder Sam Finley has left TNS after joining Conference North side AFC Fylde for an undisclosed fee.

Finley, 23, who spent time on loan at Wrexham last term, helped the Saints to four Welsh Premier titles in his three and a half years at Park Hall. He made 64 Welsh Premier appearances, 15 of them from the bench, and scored 18 goals.

Highly-rated young midfielder James Jones has joined Cymru Alliance new boys Gresford Athletic on loan.

TNS are 1-7 favourites to retain the Welsh Premier crown, with Airbus UK Broughton 11-2 and Bala Town 14-1.

We're up for challenge – Stephens

LLANFAIR UNITED open a new chapter in their history on Saturday when they begin life in the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance with a trip to Buckley Town.

United earned their place by landing the Spar Mid Wales League crown last term, but boss Rhys Stephens accepts his side face a tough transition.

"We're under no illusions just how tough it's going to be – you just have to look at the calibre of players that some of the clubs are signing," he said.

"But we're up for the challenge and ready to go, we're all looking forward to it and can't wait for Saturday."

"We could do with a decent start to give the boys a bit of confidence, but we believe we can be competitive."

Striker Ross Frame, last season's top scorer, lines up on Saturday before missing the next three months to travel abroad, while all three new signings are included in the squad. Marc Jones, a left-back/central midfielder, has joined from Berriew; midfielder Joe Vaughan has arrived from Llanrhaeadr and Alun Hughes, a right-sided midfielder, has signed from Caersws.

Hopes of pre-season silverware were dashed as Llanfair went down 3-1 at Penrhynoch in the final of the Spar Summer Cup final last Saturday.

GUILSFIELD, under new boss Danny Barton, will look to make a positive start at Denbigh Town on Saturday.

Striker Barton took the helm when Mike Parry stepped down despite his one season in charge bringing a third-place finish and the Cymru Alliance manager of the year award.

Barton seeks a centre-half after James O'Reilly switched to Market Drayton, but Sam Litchfield has joined from St Martins along with striker Peter Rees (Carno) and Jack Harris (Welshpool).

St Martins win a cup final thriller

IN one of the most dramatic finishes in the history of the Graham Edwards Memorial trophy, St Martins snatched a 3-2 victory over the Oak Oswestry in the final at Gobowen.

The 41st year of the competition brought a thrilling finale as the Oak lead after just 88 seconds through Chris Bishop, and Marc Griffiths doubled the lead on 24. However, the Saints turned the final on its head in remarkable fashion with three goals in injury time, the first through Jamie Hands from the penalty spot in the 91st minute.

Karl Bailey then fired a leveller on 95 minutes before, nine minutes into stoppage time, Shawn Melusi found the net to complete a stunning fightback.

The trophy was presented to jubilant Saints captain Bailey by TNS winger Adrian Cieslewicz who nominated the Oak's Kyle Wilson as man of the match.

Earlier in the week, the Saints also needed a last gasp winner from Dan Graham to take them into the final with a 2-1 victory over holders Gobowen Celtic.

The Oak had progressed to the final with a 5-0 beating of Morda United, Chris Bishop netting brace.

Meanwhile, Oswestry Boys and Girls Club defeated Gobowen Youth 1-0 to win the Graham Edwards Junior tournament.

ATHERTON ON TOP OF WORLD

HIGH-RIDING Rachel Atherton says consistency was key after clinching a fourth Mountain Bike World Cup downhill title.

The 27-year-old claimed glory in style by storming to a fifth successive race victory.

She swept aside the field by over nine seconds to claim the 25th World Cup win of her career in Windham, USA.

Fellow Britons Manon Carpenter and Tahnee Seagrave finished second and third respectively.

Llanrhaeadr-based Atherton, already a three-time world champion, regains the World Cup crown she last won in 2013.

"The World Cup overall means a lot because you have to be so consistent all year," she said. "In the World Champs you have to let it go and it doesn't matter if you crash."

Elite

"Week after week, the nerves, the worry – it is pretty intense so I am happy to finally have it back."

Atherton had qualified first (three minutes, 5.135 seconds) in the women's elite and then smashed her qualification time in the final when blazing her way to a time of 3.00.72.

It put 9.36 seconds between her and second-placed Carpenter to clinch the overall title.

Her brother Gee Atherton, who also lives in Llanrhaeadr, finished fourth in the men's race in 2.42.601, almost four and a half seconds off the pace.

"A few little mistakes cost me but it's been an awesome weekend's racing," he said. "I'm happy enough with fourth, and big congratulations to the sis!"

The Athertons' GT Racing team also took the team of the day award and lead that competition with a round to go – Saturday, August 22 in Val di Sole, Italy.

Meanwhile, Rachel Atherton joins world champions Gee Atherton and Carpenter in a formidable 29-strong British team at the world championships in Andorra this month.

The UCI MTB World Championships run from August 31 to September 6 with Gee Atherton and Carpenter defending the downhill titles they won in Norway last year.

Thomas jumps for joy with gold



Oswestry-based rider Thomas Tulloch on board Spirit VI

TEENAGER Thomas Tulloch added a European Championship team gold to his many Eventing accolades when the British Charles Owen Pony Team won the FEI European Championships in Malmö.

The Oswestry-based rider continued his success story after gaining a team silver from the 2014 Europeans as well as two successive national Pony Eventing Championships titles at Brand Hall in 2014 and 2015.

Thomas, who is just 16, was representing Britain with his mother Jancis Tulloch and his own bay British-bred gelding 'Spirit VI'.

Following clear rounds in the show jumping from all of the team members in the culminations of the competition, the British team finished the championship on a collective score of 138.7. France took silver position with 154.6 and the host nation Sweden claimed bronze on a score of 160.1.

Tulloch just missed out on an individual medal after finishing in fourth spot.

Gary Parsonage, the chairman of selectors commented that: "Thomas was so close to individual bronze but he couldn't have done any more for us."

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Published by the Oswestry Chronicle and printed by Shropshire Newspapers Limited, Ketley, Telford. Registered at the P.O. as a newspaper. Price when sold 60p

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